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# Harvey Speaks Out

by George Mendenhall

B.A.R. is pleased to present excerpts from a taped speech by Supervisor-elect Harvey Milk. He spoke before the November meeting of the San Francisco Gay Democratic Club...

### VICTORY

I will never forget it. I cannot. I know where it comes from. I don't have any power or influence yet. It really doesn't take place until January 9.

I am just a figurehead, the one who happened to step out of the back room. I am the one who happens to have done it. It is your victory, and I do not mean just the ones who worked and voted for me...

The opponents threw everything against us -- innuendos, phoney endorsements, and all -- and we still won.

### WALKING FROM THE CASTRO

The swearing in will be at noon on Monday, Jan. 9. We will be walking from Castro Street.

I was elected to represent the City of San Francisco and the 5th District. I also have a responsibility of being a Gay leader. I hope the walk will include everyone.

In the 98 precincts in the district, we were first in 60 and second in 33. We worked all over the district and our victory was broad-based. I knew that it would be.

### WHAT THIS VICTORY MEANS

I ran three times before succeeding. Traditionally it is three strikes and you're "out," but I play by different rules.

When the mayor asked me a year ago what my motivation was, I told him that I remember what it was like to be 14 and Gay. I know that somewhere today there is a 14 year old child who discovers that he or she is Gay and learns that the family may throw that child out of the house. The police will harass that child. The state will say that the child is a criminal and that the intelligence of the Anita Bryants will be screaming at that child. Maybe that child read in the newspaper, "Homosexual Elected in San Francisco," and that child has two options: move to San Francisco or stay in San Antonio or Des Moines and fight. The child has hope.

### THE OBLIGATION OF GAY PEOPLE

Picture a country of hundreds of Gay clubs and organizations. National conventions with 8,000 people who are electing to national office friends of the Gay community. Maybe we never had it so good, compared with what went before, but the future can be greater.

We are now split: Republicans, Democrats, Socialists, Independents. Many people say, "I cannot get involved in politics and why should I? Who is going to bother us here?"

We must begin now to be involved so statespersons will go out and change the laws. It can still happen here as it did in Germany. The Briggs' are the Hitlers. If the Briggs' win, they will not stop. They will taste victory...

It is vital that people join Gay groups even if they cannot attend the meetings. We must have members. The politicians want to know how many people are involved. Our protection is strength.

If we don't have the money, we must have numbers. We must register people to vote. Gay people have registered 5,000 voters in front of my camera store on Castro... When I first started the Castro Street Fair the city would not close the street for me. The next year I took them photos of the crowds that had been there and they closed the street.

### LEARNING & BUILDING GAY POWER

There were an incredible number of speeches made at the Democratic National Convention about rights, rights, rights -- but we could not get a Gay plank into the platform. This is so even though we make up 5-7% in a voting bloc. They walked away from us. My answer to that is that we shall never again go back. We must start to build toward the national convention so that we cannot be ignored... The Jewish vote is estimated at a 4% bloc vote. The Democratic convention was geared to get that Jewish vote.

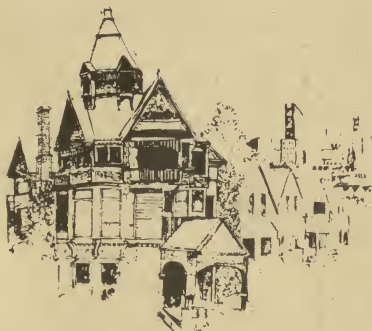
We have to start to learn what to do and what not to do. We must educate ourselves as the Black movement and the Jewish movement have done. Why have they been so successful and why have we been such a failure? We may not find the answers



Supervisor-elect Harvey Milk.



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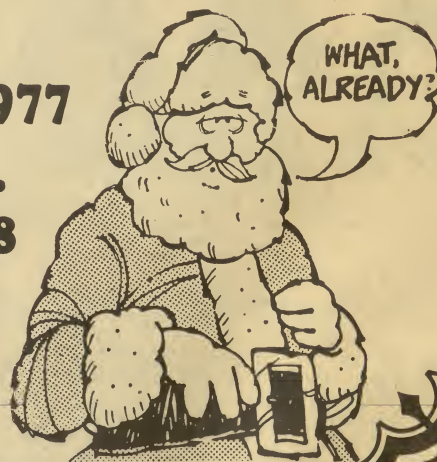
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immediately, but we will learn and we will make our presence felt.

When "push comes to shove," there are more of them than there are of us. We are going to need their support, and we had better start playing their games now. We must get into battles such as the International Hotel or whatever. We should work openly as Gay people so they know who is supporting them; so they will be there when we need their support.

Get involved in someone's campaign for the June primary elections. Let them know that you are Gay. If they don't want you, we will be finding out who is who.

#### A STRATEGY FOR GAY POWER

We must have a statewide caucus of Gay people, not just Gay Democrats, but also Gay Republicans, Socialists, Communists, Fascists and Independents. Then we must invite all of the candidates for state office to speak to us — not about the aerospace industry, but about their positions on Gay rights.

The time has come to embarrass our friends. We must ask ourselves some questions now that will have to be asked sooner or later. We can sit in the back of the bus where we may get shoved out when it is unpopular to have us around. We might as well find out now who our real friends are. If it embarrasses certain candidates, so be it. I am embarrassed by some of them.

#### NATIONAL STRENGTH

We must begin now to put together a statewide movement and learn from our mistakes in doing that. Maybe in three years we can have our own nationwide convention and invite the national candidates to find out where they are. If neither presidential candidate shows up, there may be a third candidate. There is no reason why we should vote Democratic or Republican just because we are ourselves Republican or Democratic.

What good is a nation which is economically healthy, that is beautifully run, if you are in jail because you are Gay. We must learn from history that the time for riding in the back of the bus is over; that we must ride up front or ride by ourselves. We must make that decision — not just for ourselves but for that young person in Altoona, Pennsylvania.

#### SUPPORT FOR CHIEF GAIN

Chief of Police Charles Gain is not the greatest person in the world. He is not the greatest friend in the world. But he is the best Chief of Police that any Gay community in this country has ever had.

The mayor has said that he, Chief Gain, will "stay in power as long as I am mayor." There is not a person in this room who doesn't know where I am with the mayor. We are not very close. I have

written to the mayor reminding him of his promise. We must all write those letters to the mayor. The dismissal of Gain would be a disaster. It would be a victory for the political Right.

#### THE BOARD PRESIDENCY

Five of the ten on the coming Board want to be President, and they are very nice to me. Eventually, I will vote for one of them. Then I will have the other four to worry about.

The freshmen on the new Board may get together and share their thoughts. I have had two meetings with Supervisor-elect Dan White, who is thought of as for Mother, God and Apple Pie. He seemed comfortable at the Oyster House on Castro.

There are many issues: speculation, rent control, etc. I believe that we will have the votes on the new Board on Upper Market Street. I would like to see the new Gay ordinance (expanding Gay employment rights citywide) considered by the new Board so we can see how they vote.

#### QUENTIN KOPP

Quentin and I disagree on issue after issue, but we do communicate with each other. Quentin supported me when I ran for the Assembly. However, I will never vote for or against a person because they were for or against me. I appreciated his support, but he also knows that it carries nothing more than appreciation... I am not now supporting anyone for the presidency of the Board at this moment. I am leaning.

#### JOHN BARBAGELATA

I never made any deals with Supervisor John Barbagelata. The rumors were not true. I found him detestable.

Three years ago he said to me, "Harvey, you are different than the rest." I know that I could never have any relationship with the gentleman, if you wish to call him that.

If we ever have another MacDonald Hamburger establishment in this city, I would like to have it right across the street from his house in St. Francis Woods.

#### RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MAYOR

I went in to see the mayor when I was elected this time. I told him, "When I criticize you, you will hear it first in this office. It is only if there is no satisfaction that they will start to hear it outside. There are certain things that the Gay community wants and needs. I will be lobbying and watching... As soon as I decide who I personally think should be the next mayor, I will come and tell you. You will be the first to hear it."

#### THE MAYORS RACE

If Mayor Moscone, who made promises to us a couple weeks ago (in a published transcript in B.A.R.), does not live up to them, look for the next candidate. He knows that he made some promises and we can no longer just sit back and let promises be enough. We must have our share — no more, but no less. He has two years.

We must get involved in the mayor's race. If the mayor does not live up to his promises, then we will be involved in finding another candidate. He knows that. You are going to make the difference. Not me.

Last time I said early, "With five major candidates for mayor and two possible in the run-off, we can wait until close to the election and then say, 'We offer you enough votes to put you in the run-off and this is what we want...'" Many "leaders" in the Gay community who were desirous to retain their token positions let this slip out of our hands. They stopped the Gay community from making a major move at that point. Let us never let that happen again.

#### WORKING TOGETHER

We must stop fighting among ourselves because someone is not liberal enough or someone is not conservative enough or someone doesn't have the right personality. We must stop fighting and work together. Even if we can't stand each other, we have to work together... There are also lots of people still "coming out" and you know what they are going through. Some are petrified about their careers. They need us to help them in their coming out.

#### FOCUS ON THE GAY ISSUE

It is not that the Gay issue is more important or that the other issues do not count, but we must focus on the Gay issue. There is no reason why other groups cannot discuss Gay issues. We cannot allow them off the hook.

I understand the problems of Women, Blacks, Chicanos and others, but I don't want to give them a way out. We are the only group discriminated against by law. I would like to see support for us on this one issue.

I don't think that we should fall into the trap of trying to accomplish too much and allow others to say, "We are for human rights and thank you very much." I have heard that too often... I don't see other movements speaking out against Briggs.

I want to say to the governor, "We know where you stand on employing women. We read it in the papers. How many Gay people do you employ?" I don't see Governor Brown dumping some orange juice and announcing, "Enough of Anita Bryant."

#### MY COMMITMENT

I have already scheduled meetings in the Haight area. There are about 15 District 5 neighborhood and association meetings a month. Either one of my two aides (Note: see news article on his appointments in this issue) or myself will be at those meetings. I will also be available and accessible to the broader community and the Gay community.

We have to keep pushing. The mayor was right when he said, "The supervisors would have closed Polk Street for Halloween if there had been 70,000 head of cattle down there." How far do we push?

We must be strong and be heard. We must push as hard as they push and then push a little stronger.

Since I speak as a Gay person, I am very much aware of the responsibility that I have. I will make mistakes, and when I do, my aides will remind me of them. I hope that the mistakes will not be too serious.

#### "Yes" To Gay Teachers

**SANTA BARBARA**  
The Santa Barbara Board of Education has unanimously passed (5-0) a resolution which adds "sexual preference" to its job non-discrimination clause. This permits openly Gay persons to apply for positions as teachers and administrators and to retain such positions.

A similar policy was passed earlier by the San Francisco Board of Education. The statewide American Federation of Teachers has passed a similar resolution as have the two major teaching organizations in Los Angeles — United Teachers and California Teachers.

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**SAN FRANCISCO** - Delegates to the National Union of American Hebrew Congregations passed a resolution (8-1)

"Homosexual persons are entitled to equal protection of the law," one resolution read. It added, "We oppose discrimination against homosexuals in employment and housing."

Rabbi Robert Kahn of Houston attempted to get approval for an amendment which would have added that "Judaism does not morally approve of all sex acts." The attempt was overwhelmingly rejected by the Reform delegates.

Sha'ar Zahaz, a local Gay congregation, reports that the resolution was introduced by the Union's Social Action Committee. The issue was debated at length by the delegates, then being referred back to the committee at that point. When the issue was re-introduced, the debate became heated with Gary Vogel of Beth Chayim Chadashim of Los Angeles (a Gay Jewish congregation) delivering an impassioned plea for passage. Shortly thereafter, the resolution passed.

B.A.R. discussed Gay Judaism and Sha'ar Zahav in the last issue. The group has services on Friday nights at 8pm (sharp) with an earlier social period at 7:30. Dress is casual.

George Mendenhall, longtime writer/activist has accepted the appointment as News Editor of BAY AREA REPORTER.

The Whittier College graduate is the former editor of one of the first Gay magazines, VECTOR, and is a contributing writer to THE ADVOCATE. He also edits the ALICE newsletter of the Toklas Democratic Club.

"I welcome the challenge," he states, "that is offered to me by B.A.R. I will aim to separate editorial from news content, expand into more investigative journalism, encourage more writers to contribute and gradually integrate into our news that which is of interest to Lesbians. Let us hope

that our News Section becomes qualitative, complementing the Entertainment Section under the talented Donald McLean."

P. Lorch

It would be a bit premature to refer to the Castro Theater as the Grauman's Chinese Theater of the Gay community, but enough "firsts" have been occurring there in the last two years to start the rumor rolling.

Thursday night, Dec. 2, witnessed the premiere of the Mariposa Film Group's "Word Is Out, Stories of Some of Our Lives." Five years in the planning, two years in the making, the two-hour plus documentary is the labor of love of six young San Francisco filmmakers.

By 7:15pm a three-deep, block-long line stretched from 17th to 18th along Castro, and by the time the film got

The National Gay Task Force recently released its membership figures, including a breakdown of membership figures by states. Total membership of this nationwide organization is only 6,545. New York leads with 1,889; California is second with 1,190; and Illinois ranks third with 356 members. Considering that there are millions of Gay people in this country, the low figures are startling.

It is not surprising that society does not take homosexuals' demands seriously when only a tiny fraction of Gay men and Lesbians are interested in supporting the one organization which has the potential for becoming a strong voice for Lesbian and Gay rights.

Surely Gay people do not need to be reminded of the many positive projects and actions that NGTF has accomplished during its four year existence. NGTF has worked with numerous government agencies and the national media and has supported Gay organizations all over the country. It has been active in areas as different as Lesbian mother custody cases and the right of Gays to serve in the military. The White House meeting by itself would be reason enough for Gays to support NGTF, to say nothing about the many other activities it has undertaken on behalf of Gay people all over the country.

Certainly the \$15 membership fee is not stopping individuals from joining NGTF. That amount is far less than many Gays and Lesbians have spent on a week's entertainment.

If Gay people are ever to have equal rights in this country, if the Gay lifestyle is ever to be accepted, each individual Gay person must take some responsibility for educating the American public. One very simple and basic step which everyone can take is to help create a strong and united national Gay organization. The National Gay Task Force already exists. To be more effective it needs more members, more funds and more people willing to lend a hand.

It's time to build a true national movement, but only dedicated individuals can do that. The question is: are Gay people finally ready for full equality? And are they ready to live for more than 25 years with fear, ignorance, hostility and violence? If Gays are ready for equality, they must show that by creating a national movement. The National Gay Task Force is the place to start.

- GAY LIFE/MIDWEST

(Persons who want to join the National Gay Task Force should send a check for \$15 to NGTF, Room 506, 80 Fifth Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10011)



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Holly Near opens Castro Theatre premiere of "Word Is Out."

## Gay Catholics Try Again — Appeal To Pope Paul VI

"We ask you to speak out equally in behalf of the civil and human rights of Roman Catholic homosexual persons, according to the norms of Vatican II and the recent Vatican declaration on human sexuality," Walter Kay, president of Dignity/International has written to Pope Paul VI. Kay lauded the Pope for his willingness to exchange his life for hostages in a recent terrorist act in the Middle East, urging him to extend his sense of courage to the support of Gay Catholics.

Kay, recently elected by the 6000 members of the world's largest Gay group, called upon the Pope to "raise your voice, as you have done against other self-righteous individuals and groups who are doing grave harm while professing to be serving the good. Make a public stand against those who are attempting to destroy human rights, civil rights, and the faith of your fellow Roman Catholics who are homosexual persons."

The official Roman Catholic position remains that homosexuality is a sin. Attempts by lay persons and liberal priests to change the papal position have been increasing in recent years but the papacy has remained adamant. Archbishop John Quinn, San Francisco, is supportive of the traditional Roman Catholic stand on homosexuality. Quinn was recently elected to the presidency of the National Council of Catholic Bishops.

Dignity/International has chapters throughout the country. The local chapter has a social/informational program and regular services: Dignity, Box 5727, San Francisco, CA 94111.



The Adair Film Group premiered Gay documentary "Word Is Out" at the Castro

underway at 8:10pm, 1,600 patrons had filled the restored neighborhood movie house.

Holly Green, popular and well-known Gay balladeer, opened the benefit showing (a fund-raiser for Save Our Human Rights Foundation - SOHR) and she was greeted by a wildly enthusiastic audience.

"Word Is Out" is a collage of interviews of 26 Gay men and women from across the country. The 26 were gleaned from a total of 200 earlier videotaped interviews. George Mendenhall, B.A.R. News Editor and long-time Gay journalist; Rick Stokes, recent super-

visorial candidate in District 5; and Sally Gerhart, author and speech professor at San Francisco State University, were several of the local interviewees.

Following the film (which received a 5-minute thundering tribute in applause), George Mendenhall took over as MC and introduced those interviewees who had traveled to San Francisco to take part in the premiere. Well over half the cast was on hand — and as they walked toward the stage, each was greeted with standing ovations.

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## "New Briggs Summary Is More Accurate" .... Hardman

Paul Hardman, Pride Foundation official, is pleased with a re-written summary on the new petitions being circulated by Senator John Briggs' "California Save Our Children" group. He believes that the earlier summary, which had the title "School Teachers - Homosexual Acts or Conduct," was too limiting and that the new title, "School Employees - Homosexuality," is more fairly descriptive of what the measure is about.

Pride was asked to submit its own definition for the summary after the organization had successfully challenged, on a minor technicality, the

## News Summary — Briggs Initiative

The Attorney General of California has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed measure. This will appear on the petitions now being circulated by the "California Save Our Children" organization. The differences between this summary and the one on the earlier petitions is discussed in a separate article.

\* \* \* \* \*

### SCHOOL EMPLOYEES - HOMOSEXUALITY INITIATIVE STATUTE

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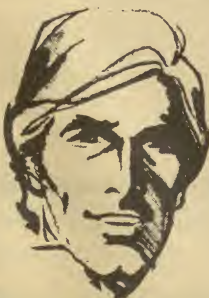
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wording of the first petition. CSOC had printed 800,000 petitions which had to be withdrawn. Many Gay activists question whether Briggs can rebuild the momentum he began with the circulation of the first petition.

Attorneys John Wahl and Donald Knutson were instrumental in writing a suggested summary at the request of the State Attorney General, which was considered in the writing of the new summary.

The new wording, printed elsewhere in this issue of B.A.R., emphasizes that the petition "provides for filing charges" as against the earlier definition which emphasized "prohibits hiring, and requires dismissal." Either way, Hardman believes that "the initiative is highly questionable on constitutional grounds. It is redundant by repeating constitutional protections already in current law. It calls attention to Gay people as a special class, as if we alone could commit the acts or deeds suggested." He says, however, that the new description more clearly explains the guidelines and better states that acts or deeds are subject to review.

If Briggs can now accumulate 312,000 valid signatures in 150 days, his measure will qualify for the November ballot. This would require an estimated 450,000 names, allowing for the usual 20-25% disqualification of invalid signatures. Only four out of 152 attempts to qualify initiatives have been successful in California history.

## New Age Boycott: Coors

New Age, a relatively new professional Gay rights organization in Los Angeles, has initiated as a major project the expansion of the Gay boycott against the Coors Com-

pany of Golden, Colorado. The gaycott began in 1977 when Howard Wallace and Bay Area Gay Liberation (BAGL) alerted Gay people to the use of a lie detector test at Coors for prospective employees and talked of the Right Wing politics of Coors officials, detrimental to the Gay rights cause.

The New Age campaign began in November with the mailing of its Newsletter to 8,000 Gay activists, urging that they boycott Coors. The group also mailed letters to every bar, bath and community center in Southern California, urging that they discontinue the use of Coors beer. In addition, New Age is announcing its boycott through a speakers bureau. It is placing advertisements in a number of Gay publications urging the boycott.

In its announcement, New Age calls attention to President Joseph Coors' continuing support of Phyllis Schlafly and the John Birch Society, both openly anti-homosexual, support by the Coors family of Congressperson Larry McDonald who authored the successful amendment which took Gay people out of the free legal aid program and its support of the political Right which is openly opposed to the Gay and women's rights movements. Emphasis was also placed on the company's long history of being anti-union and its very limited hiring of Chicanos, Blacks and women. The company's use of a polygraph (lie detector) test to screen out prospective employees with divergent lifestyles was also a factor in the move by New Age.

The Brewery Workers #366 strike continues at Coors, although many of the 1,400 workers who went on strike in April of this year have either returned to work or sought employment elsewhere. The callous company has hired hundreds of non-union workers ("scabs") in order to destroy the



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union's bargaining effort.

The LOS ANGELES TIMES analyzed the strike and boycott in a November 21 article. It stressed

that Coors sales have continued to slump with a reported decline in California of 20% in sales and a decline of 15% in Texas.

TIMES writer Larry Pryor said, "Coors' volume this year is expected to be considerably below projections."

Wallace, a Gay activist and Teamster driver, is quoted in the TIMES feature: "The Gay bar to the Gay community is what the Black church is to the Black community. It is a social center, a place to meet, and beers sell big. It is a lucrative market." He expressed pleasure that almost all Gay bars in Northern California now boycott Coors and expressed concern that the use of the polygraph test is intimidating to potential Gay employees.

The TIMES says the "toughest issues, the ones that may determine the effectiveness of the boycott, deal with whether the company has discriminated against women, homosexuals or minority groups... Adolph Coors Co. officials have been telling interest groups that it takes no position for or against controversial issues such as Gays, abortion and the Equal

# BOYCOTT COORS — ON STRIKE

Rights Amendment ... sexual orientation, call off the lie detector tests and stop the heavy underwriting of leading anti-Gay groups." There has been no response from the Adolph Coors Co. at Golden, Colorado.

In answer to continuing charges that he is attempting to break unions and is anti-human rights, President Joseph Coors told the TIMES: "All we're trying to do is maintain the same opportunities for the next generation that I have had during my lifetime. We (the Coors family) feel very definitely there are strong forces that are trying to destroy them."

Concerned about the growing gaycott, Co-Presidents Bill and Joseph Coors have attempted to explain their position in THE ADVOCATE newspaper and have toured the Western States to refute the anti-Gay argument against them. They have spent thousands of dollars on full-page advertisements to deny charges, but neither man has personally given any money to any Gay group.

Those wishing to help New Age in its massive public relations effort to expand the Coors boycott can send a check to: Coors Boycott Fund, New Age, 1236 No. Flores St., Suite 404, Los Angeles, CA 90069. You may call New Age at (213) 656-8803.

George Mendenhall

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# Politics & People

## The Campaign Against Gain

by Wayne Friday

Almost a year ago I wrote a column in support of Police Chief Gain. It is time once again that those of us in the Gay community in particular, and the fair-minded citizens of this city in general, speak up again for Charlie Gain.

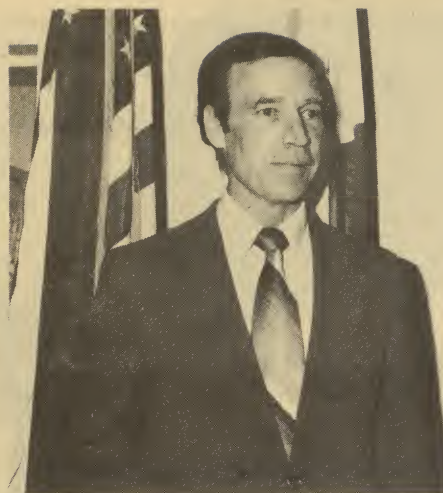
At the present time, there is a tremendous move underway by many to pressure Mayor Moscone to dump Chief Gain. We read almost daily in the straight press attacks upon the Chief by not only Herb Caen, but other writers as well. The

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Chief Charles Gain "He Needs our Support Now" (Wayne Friday)

right-wing Police Officers Ass'n has renewed their semi-annual "get rid of Charlie Gain" campaign and show no signs of letting up.

The latest attack came after the Chief was photographed at the recent Hookers' Ball. I personally see nothing wrong with the Chief going to the Ball or even being photographed there, but it might have been a mistake in public relations on the Chief's part - I don't know. Last year the POA caused a similar flap over the fact that the Chief asked that the American flag be removed from his inner office. Again, a possible lapse in judgement on the part of the Chief. In fact, if I can see one fault at all with Charles Gain, it might be just that - mistakes when it comes to public relations. But then, that is not what he was hired to do - worry about his public image. I hardly think being photographed at the Hookers' Ball hurt the public image of the Police Department, as the POA claims. I think, too, that he might have quietly moved the flag from his office and no one would have been the wiser. But Charlie Gain didn't take time to stop and wonder what his critics would think.

The guy has been a damned good cop - probably the best top cop we've had for a long time. As Gays, Charles Gain has been the best friend we could have in the Police Department; he hates any type of bigotry and will not tolerate it from his men, whether it be against Gays or straights. I have talked with Chief Gain on several occasions and I am convinced of his sincerity.

The Police Officers Ass'n certainly is not sympathetic to Gays, although some individual cops might be. The POA President, Gerald Crowley, will not let up on his effort to torpedo Gain. The pressure on the Mayor is increasing all of the time - even Herb Caen, who claims to be a liberal, has sided with the POA and the right-wing cops.

There is a move going on at this moment of which we are not even made aware; there are pressures from important people urging the Mayor to dump Charlie Gain. If you think what you read in the press and hear on TV is heavy, that is only a part of it.

I know Quentin Kopp and have always had an admiration of sorts for him, but when he ran with the Hookers' Ball incident, I began to wonder if Quentin Kopp wants to be Mayor so damned bad that even a man like Charlie Gain has to pay the price.

Herb Caen's relentless attacks upon Gain are easier to understand. Caen has many friends on the force who have come up through the ranks. Many of them he knew long before Gain came to San Francisco. Caen's cop friends obviously have his ear, and he is only mouth-piecing their alibis. Crowley and the POA brass have no concern for Gays - none whatsoever.

For every bit of pressure there is on the other side to urge Moscone to replace Gain, we must apply even more pressure to keep him here. I urge everyone to contact the Mayor, backing him in his defense of Gain. George Moscone is trying to do a good job as Mayor, but in the final analysis he is still a politician. And who knows, if the pressure gets too heavy, he might just give in. Write to the Mayor, call his office, or better yet, if possible, speak to him in person.

Neither time nor space permits me to tell of the many incidents that I know of where Chief Gain has spoken or acted in our behalf. He needs our support now.

### POLITICS & POKER...

A recent national poll favors limiting terms of Senators and Congresspersons to a total of 12 years... L.A. Congresswoman Yvonne Burke in town drumming up support and money for the Attorney General race... Anne Kronenberg and Dick Pabich going to City Hall as aides of Harvey Milk... GOP Assembly-

man Ken Maddy's gubernatorial campaign catching fire... Alice Toklas Club to elect officers in January - a lack of any other formidable candidates puts pressure on Frank Fitch to run again for President... Barry King thinking of switching back to the Republican Party and running against Willie Brown next year (That's the quickest way I know to political oblivion!)... Sheriff Hongisto said on a recent Tom Snyder NBC show that he hoped to be Mayor, but that he would not run against Moscone. I hope he means it because Hongisto would make a great Mayor... Lt. Gov. Mervyn Dymally to be guest speaker at the Jan. 10 testimonial dinner for Supervisor Harvey Milk... I met San Diego Mayor Pete Wilson last week and found him to be an honest, attractive, likable candidate for Governor... D.A. Joe Freitas looking like a fool over the Wheaties flap... Quentin Kopp replaced Dorothy von Beroldingen on the Golden Gate Bridge Board of Directors... Bob Mendelsohn, never one to shy away from the public trough, has taken a job at \$168 per day as a Washington, D.C., city employee. (Don't say you read it here, but I wrote eight months ago Bobby would never be confirmed at that Interior Dept. job)... N.Y. Mayor-elect Koch has asked a city investigative agency to look into the vicious rumors spread in the recent campaign when his opponents printed literature and called him a "homo"... meanwhile, the police in NYC have started a crackdown on "call boy" operations that promises to be embarrassing to a lot of big names... Milton Marks still being talked of as a candidate for statewide office; most often Lt. Governor... Art Agnos had two big losers in the recent Supe election - he strongly backed Rick Stokes and Gary Borvice.

Briggs, meanwhile, claiming threats on his life, has been given a full-time State Police bodyguard... Briggs female counterpart, the Bigot Bryant, called the recent National Women's Conference held in Houston a "pro-Lesbian" confab.

Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver recuperating at home with a back ailment... Harvey Milk has been swamped with speaking invitations from all over, and interview requests number about three a day... Jerry Brown still owes \$150,000 on his 1976 Presidential race... San Jose Councilman Dave Runyon taking heat from Gays in that city for his pro-Anita Bryant statements... B.A.R. publisher Bob Ross seems to be the name that keeps coming up whenever a Gay on the Police Commission is mentioned... S.F. Archbishop John Quinn said recently that homosexuals "need a special kind of love for encouragement to lead wholesome lives." Who doesn't?...

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## Open Notebook

Wanted: One Symbol

### Jack Warner

Recently when I was reading the Sunday newspaper, I came to an article that occupied a whole page and contained only one picture. Since the picture showed us Anita Bryant with her mouth open, my attention was immediately captured. I simply couldn't turn the page without finding out why Anita's picture was there. But I had to read almost the whole article before I found out that Anita was mentioned only in passing in the second half of one sentence. The article dealt with another subject entirely, and a lot of other well-known people were also mentioned. Why, then, was Anita's picture so prominently displayed?

The answer, of course, is that Anita is an attention-getter. Newspaper editors know that they can get us to read about almost anything if we are led to believe that it somehow has a connection with Anita. The plain fact is that she has managed to make herself a symbol for the subject of homosexuality. No matter whether a person is

Gay or straight, prohomosexual or antihomosexual, he is going to recognize at once, when he sees Anita's picture, that the subject of homosexuality is close at hand. And even if it isn't the actual subject at hand, interest is aroused. As the newspapers themselves have demonstrated in the last couple of years, everybody is interested in homosexuality.

But isn't this a strange phenomenon? Why should a person who is ANTI-homosexual become a symbol for homosexuality? When the newspapers talk about the black civil rights movement, they show us pictures of black people, not racists. When they talk about the women's liberation movement, they show us pictures of women, not men. It begins to look as if the subject isn't really homosexuality at all, but what Anita stands for -- antihomosexuality. Considering what the newspapers usually report, that may well be the case. If so, then I suggest that it is time for us to do something about it.

It is time, I think, to find a Gay person -- man or woman -- who will become a symbol for the Gay movement. An individual Gay person still has a lot to lose by stepping forward and becoming a spokesperson and a symbol. It will take sacrifice and courage. But if Gay rights are to be obtained, I think it is absolutely necessary. Some Gay person must emerge as a counter-symbol to Anita.

To get some idea of what kind of Gay person would fit the bill, we might ask what Anita has that most of the rest of us don't have. She has, first of all, constant exposure on television and radio as well as in the newspapers. Second, she is a person who has already been accepted as a public figure by the media. Third, she has a following that is made up of people who are swayed by emotion instead of by reason -- in her case, an organized religion.

We need, therefore, somebody who is already known and accepted by society in general, somebody already in the public view. It should be somebody with a certain amount of influence in another sphere, somebody who commands respect. And it should be somebody who either has an established following or who is capable of leading large groups of people at the emotional as well as at the rational level. It would be an added advantage

if the person selected had more status in all of these areas than Anita has.

Who? The obvious choice would be a movie or television star or perhaps a sports figure. Only a person in these fields meets all of the requirements. It wouldn't make any difference whether it was a man or a woman, but the person chosen would have to be willing to risk everything he/she is and has. Ay, there's the rub. Dare we ask of anybody what might well turn out to be a total sacrifice of career, financial stability, and life aspirations?

And yet this is exactly what we need. We already have leaders in the Gay movement, of course, who have been willing to take this risk, and we are grateful for what they have done. But for the most part they have become known only to others in the Gay movement. Their names aren't recognized in the straight world, and consequently their voices aren't persuasive. We need somebody who has already arrived, somebody who can speak from the heights.

Are there any volunteers? Is there any well-known Gay person who believes enough in the cause to dedicate his/her life to it at whatever cost? We desperately need somebody whose picture can replace Anita's. We need a Gay

person who is willing to become a symbol.

## Agnos Announces Student Aid Program

SACRAMENTO - Assemblyman Art Agnos announced recently that applications for the State Graduate Fellowship Program for 1978-79 are now available.

This Fellowship Program is a state-aid program designed to provide financial assistance on a competitive basis to graduate or professional students.

"Students should take advantage of this Fellowship Program because it is a grant which does not have to be repaid," Agnos said.

"These awards are for full-time study and range from \$700 to full tuition and fees," he continued.

The Legislature provides funds for students who demonstrate a financial need, who have met their competitive requirements and who attend graduate or professional school.

Agnos stated that the grant awards are for one academic year of graduate study which may be renewed for up to three additional years if necessary.

The deadline for mailing the application is February 6, 1978.



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# Behind the Headlines

## Lesbians And Gay Men Struggling Together

by George Mendenhall

It has not been easy, but it is more honest and personally rewarding for Gay men to recognize women as equals. Every facet of the media and educational system is geared to teach men that they are superior to women.

It has not been easy in our male chauvinist society for this writer to fully become aware that the oppression that comes "girls" and "boys" are sup-

posed to be like. As we grow up we are taught that as men we are aggressive, unemotional and logical, while women are passive, emotional and illogical. If you are a male and you break the mold by contrary conduct, you could be dubbed a "sissy" by a chauvinist society because you are "just like a woman."

posed to be like. As we grow up we are taught that as men we are aggressive, unemotional and logical, while women are passive, emotional and illogical. If you are a male and you break the mold by contrary conduct, you could be dubbed a "sissy" by a chauvinist society because you are "just like a woman."

What happened at Houston was more revolutionary than we may realize. Women not only demanded to be themselves, but Gay women demanded equality. The equality for Gay women, if and when it is achieved, will bring equality to the Gay male. That is why Houston was so amazing. In reality, Gay women - and all women who were supportive - were opening up new avenues for the oppressed Gay male. And all of this happened - and is happening - incidental to the fact that few Gay men have any real interest in the women's rights movement.

Lesbians are rightfully being separatist in some ways in order to establish clearly their own needs. The slang word "Gay" usually means "Gay male" to the general public and words are vitally important in establishing attitudes. To those of us who still struggle with semantics, it is important that we realize that a woman is not a "girl" when she reaches her mid-teens any more than a grown adult male is a "boy." Gay men and straight women, some of whom still prefer to be called "girls" in order to preserve another myth - eternal youth - are hopefully beginning to realize what damage is done to the psyche when we play phoney roles created by a screwed up educational system and self-serving Madison Avenue advertisers.

Ginny Apuzzo, a really amazing official of the National Gay Rights Lobby, stated recently, "We come into the Gay movement with an intellectual and emotional perspective that comes out of the feminist movement. There is a real problem with many Lesbian feminists when men choose to live and die with Gay rights alone. It's an uphill struggle for the women to be heard."

They are heard, however, in the Adair Films production "Word is Out" (now at the Gateway Theater) where 26 women and men talk about their experiences as Gay persons. See the film and

listen closely to Sally Gearhart and the male feminist Tede Mathews. From different worlds in many ways, they express the same emotions - the same intellect. They say that you can be yourself and that you can be fulfilled in every way by being yourself in spite of

the pressures of our society. They are also saying that we have an obligation to be political - to let the world know that individuality will no longer be stifled and that we all know the source of our oppression and will tolerate it no longer.

## New York Gays Emerge: New Political Strength



NEW YORK CITY - "New York City's homosexual population, which only a few years ago began to come out of the closet and into the street, has developed markedly in recent months into a cohesive, open and organized force. Despite national setbacks, such as a recent unfavorable ruling by the United States Supreme Court on the dismissals of homosexual teachers, gains by homosexuals in New York and elsewhere have been enormous." This is the conclusion of writer Grace Lichtenstein in a recent NEW YORK TIMES article. Her analysis made several conclusions in describing changes in New York City, which are also being experienced in San Francisco.

While many New Yorkers still think of homosexuals in terms of being interior decorators and inhabitants of Manhattan bars and Fire Island, there is a newly developing image - the reality of a newly emerging political Gay activism. Even the traditionally "closeted" professionals - politicians, clergymen, teachers, physicians, lawyers - are becoming involved in Gay educational and political pursuits.

There is now the "Greater Gotham Business Council," which compares with San Francisco's well established Golden Gate Business Association. Its founder, accountant Gerald Schiff, said that

when he returned to New York City in 1975 he discovered that "it is an entirely different city. It is now very much openly Gay, more willing to seek out Gay professional people, Gay clients, Gay customers, more conducive to 'coming out'."

New York City is experiencing a Gay business phenomenon that has existed in San Francisco for several years - Gay rap sessions, switchboards, newspapers, magazines, religious groups, radio programs, travel agencies, clothing stores, book stores, and so on.

The entrance of the Gay professional and business person into Gay politics since the Miami setback has been noted repeatedly in the straight press in Gotham. Gay power at the polls has been recognized recently by Democratic mayoral candidates who were appealing directly to the Gay community with promises of support for a city council non-discrimination ordinance which has failed six times since 1975.

A Gay Political Action Council registered 12,500 new voters in a three-week drive last June. This enthusiasm, the TIMES suggests, comes from the fact that "an increasingly tolerant attitude toward the growing self-awareness of homosexuals here in recent years. People who never before thought of living

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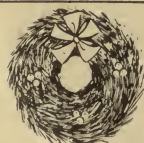
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their lives openly, people in important positions, are now being sanctified by the liberals."

Buying Gay products and services from Gay people has increased in New York City and the TIMES concludes that more people are "coming out," although there is still "a huge reservoir of closet Gays," men and women who still will not write out a check to an organization with 'Gay' in the title, who insist that Gay publications be sent in plain brown wrappers, or who simply feel that disclosing their sexual preference to the general public will endanger their jobs, home and family."

One group which the TIMES calls "militant" is Gay Activist Alliance which has held over a dozen public demonstrations recently to protest injustices. The group marched against the portrayal of Gays on the TV series "Soap," an anti-Gay sign in Geordie's bar, and against President Carter for now publicly including Gay people in his "human rights" demands. These events bring considerable press coverage and caused some closeted Gays to retreat even further into the closet. A GAA official explains, "When all the polite tactics fail, we have to do the more confrontational things to show people who offend the Gay community that they can't get away with it."

Gay political activists in Gotham are encouraged by the recent defeat of

Councilperson Matthew Troy who was the most vehement opponent of the "Gay rights" ordinance being proposed again soon. The election of Mayor Koch, who enthusiastically supports the new ordinance, is also considered an asset.

Politicians across the country are now watching New York City as they once did San Francisco for indications of pro or anti-Gay trends. Rowland Evans and Robert Novak, in a recently syndicated column, commented on the "Gays emerging as a political force in New York." They conclude that the new presence of Gay people "threatens the perception of New York by its middle-class as a place where traditional values can be preserved... Politicians here now talk about the organized homosexual vote. In fact, it may only be 5% of the population, but image is more important than reality."

## L.A. Crackdown: Davis Wants Vice Increase

LOS ANGELES - The passage of a liberal "bingo" game ordinance here has prompted Police Chief Ed Davis to request 42 additional vice squad officers from the Police Commission. Last year the commission dropped 47 officers from this detail after hearing continued complaints about

police harassment in Gay bars and at Gay events.

Police Commander Stephen Downing says that there will be a considerable increase in "vice activities" by the granting of licenses to non-church groups to hold bingo games. Two commissioners, James Fisk and Salvador Montenegro, have publicly supported the vice increase which would cost the city an additional \$753,000 a year.

The Gay community here is concerned because Davis is publicly anti-homosexual and has used vice officers extensively in Gay bars and on the streets. In the 1976 Gay Freedom Day Parade, many were beaten by officers on Hollywood Blvd. who attempted to keep spectators from joining in the parade. The 42 additional vice officers would not be assigned specifically to police the bingo operation.

A general "crackdown" on male and female prostitution in Hollywood through the use of plainclothes and uniformed officers has virtually halted prostitution. The three month drive by the Hollywood police station brought many arrests and has made a "ghost town" out of Selma Avenue, formerly known as a pick-up area for male prostitutes.

In a recent article, "Alternate" magazine states that the police and the state Alcoholic Beverage Control have targeted

## ADMINISTRATIVE AIDES APPOINTED BY MILK

Anne Kronenberg, who served as Campaign Coordinator for Supervisor-elect Harvey Milk, has been appointed his Chief Administrative Aide. She will be assisted by a second aide, Dick Pabich of the political public-relations firm of Rivaldo-Pabich.

Kronenberg is an official of the Feminist Credit Union and is a motorcycle enthusiast. Pabich is associated with the firm which produced the campaign literature for three successful supervisorial winners - Carol Ruth Silver, Ella Hill Hutch, and Milk.

\* \* \* \* \*

On Tuesday, Jan. 10, Milk will be honored at a grand testimonial dinner at the Galleria. Mervyn Dymally, Lieutenant Governor of California, will be the guest speaker.

nine Hollywood Gay bars is currently campaigning for closing. The ABC, it is alleged, has targeted the "leather" bars on Melrose because of police arrests made in those bars. The owner/managers assert that the arrests come from the obvious "cruising" by young plainclothes officers.

Male hustlers are now playing their trade on Santa Monica Blvd. in the jurisdiction of the County Sheriff's Department.

Chief Davis is retiring on January 25, 1978. He

is currently campaigning for Governor of California. The Police Commission has opened up the examinations for a new Chief to include those outside of Los Angeles; the search is now national in scope. The hierarchy of the police department has protested any choice of a Chief that would be outside of current police personnel and has threatened a lawsuit. It is generally accepted that a choice of an assistant or aide to replace Davis would continue Davis' openly anti-Gay policy.

## Is Mayor Koch Gay? Problems Of The Single Politician

Mayor-elect Edward Koch of New York City while in Congress continues to be confronted with rumors that he is a homosexual. Koch, 52, is "suspect" because he is single and authored a bill while in Congress which would have placed Gay people under the protections of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. During his mayoral race, undercurrent gossip

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spread that Koch is Gay in an effort to discredit him.

Mario Cuomo, Liberal Party candidate for mayor, was accused by Koch supporters of en-

couraging the "Koch is Gay" rumors. Reports were also allegedly circulated by Samuel DiMilia, President of the Police Patrolmen's Benevolent

Association, that Koch had been beaten up by a homosexual lover but had declined to press charges.

The "Gay lover" story spread through Manhattan and resulted in an investigation, requested by Koch himself, by the city's Department of Investigation. The probe was conducted by Commissioner Nicholas Scopetta and found the accusations "groundless." Criminal records revealed that out of 65,000 police records only one mentioned Koch and that was in 1972 when a panhandler demanded money from Koch. Koch brought in a police officer and the individual paid a \$50 fine.

"Successful single politicians are emblems of a new and potent force in American social and political life. In part, that force has to do with life-style... These politicians are no longer necessarily models of family and hearth, but unattached individuals whose unstated appeal is often that of the workaholic with no ties. Not only can such a politician claim that he/she is not beholden to the special interests -- he/she can go further and appears to be free of all encumbering relationships."

G.M.

W. E. Beardemphl, former publisher of THE SENTINEL, is serving as publisher while Morris is confined.

Those who wish to write or send cards to Morris may do so: Charles Lee Morris, Moffitt Hospital, 9 East Parnassus Avenue; San Francisco 94143.

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Governor Jerry Brown of California is also "suspect" according to a recent cover story by writer Ed Salzman in "New West" magazine. Salzman said that the political Right could start an undercurrent rumor in California in 1978 that Governor Brown is Gay since he is single and signed a private, consensual sex bill into law. Police Chief Ed Davis, candidate for Governor, recently said that he was glad to hear that the Governor had been "going out with a woman."

Koch and Brown are not the only politicians to face criticism for being single at a time when the political Right is emphasizing "family life." Among the other political activists who are single are several New York officials: Carol Bellamy, NYC council president; Governor Hugh Carey; and Lieutenant Governor Mary Anne Krupsak. On the national scene, consumer advocate Ralph Nader remains single.

In a recent analysis in the "Village Voice," writers Alexander Cockburn and James Ridgeway write that there is hope:

## Oil Can Harry's Gives It Away As 2,000 Attend 1st Anniversary

Two thousand celebrants ushered one of the city's largest Disco bars into its 2nd year at a Nov. 29 celebration. Oil Can Harry's, formerly Boscang's, surrendered its liquor license for one day in order to hold a "private" party. Countless gallons of alcoholic beverage were given away free.

Owners Bob Charrot and Dan Turner used the occasion to thank the Gay community for its support during the previous 12 months. Disco dancing and briefly clad Go-Go dancers enlivened the occasion.

Attendants served from a three-tier, four-foot long cake and distributed an endless supply of champagne to the milling hundreds of guests. Some were able to crowd into the new underground floor area which is still under construction.

One guest reported the invitations to the event were "scalped" at Bette Midler's opening at Bimbo's for \$10 each. That would have been a bargain even at \$10 as the party went through most of the night with the free, unrestricted choice of refreshments.

The anniversary celebration was repeated on the following night with some modifications -- the general public was welcomed.

## Sentinel Publisher Condition "Serious"

Charles Lee Morris, who publishes THE SENTINEL newspaper, is in "serious" condition at Moffitt Hospital in San Francisco. He entered the hospital on November 30. "Serious" is described by hospital personnel as "having signs which are unstable." The nature of his illness is speculative. The hospital has a policy of not revealing such information to the general public.

Morris is the co-director of the Gay Freedom Day Parade, which received national attention this year.

## B.A.R.

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## Sex Surveyed By Time Magazine

To find what Americans today really think about the very basic but infinitely complex questions of sexual morality, TIME magazine commissioned the firm of Yankelovich, Shelly and White to undertake a special survey.

Yankelovich interviewed over a thousand registered voters (a sampling representative of various regions, races, ages and religious groups in proportion to nationwide figures for these same groups).

A major conclusion that emerged is that most Americans are talking more openly about sex, but are increasingly confused about the moral values involved. Fully 68% agreed with the statement that "it's a lot better to have more openness about things like sex, homosexuality, premarital and extra-marital relations."

Fifty-six percent said they would vote for legislation guaranteeing the civil rights of homosexuals. From 59% to 70% favor the right of homosexuals to live wherever they want, run for elective office, or serve in the Army. However, only 44% favor homosexuals to act as teachers or ministers.

Writes TIME, "Twenty-five years ago homosexuality was rarely discussed, and almost nobody willingly admitted to it."

"Today in an era of Gay rights marches, the Yankelovich survey asked whether sex between consenting homosexuals is

morally wrong. Forty-seven percent said 'Yes' but 43% said 'No,' and 10% were not sure. — a higher state of uncertainty than on any other subject."

On abortion, 64% (including 58% of all Catholics) believe a woman should be legally free to have an abortion if she wants one. In general, Americans are against all government prohibitions on sexual behavior. A whopping 70% subscribed to the statement, "There should be no laws, either federal or state, regulating sexual practice."

The one exception is pornography. Seventy-four percent believed that "the government should crack down more on pornography in movies, books and nightclubs."

Yankelovich found men more liberal or permissive than women; Catholics more liberal than Protestants. The Northeast and the West are the most tolerant areas; the South the least so. The young, as always, are far more easygoing than the old; the college-educated more than those without the experience.

With reference to the much-touted Sexual Revolution, in 1977 Americans believe, concludes TIME, "generally some good things have come to pass — greater frankness, greater tolerance, greater willingness to experiment. And yet a substantial majority of Americans cling to a belief in many of the values of family life that they learned in their own homes."

"fellowship."

The contemplated building has an auditorium that seats 400, a complete kitchen, numerous offices and a large adjoining parsonage. There is a balcony and 9-rank pipe organ which is in good condition. MCC recently purchased a sound system which would be ample for the new structure.

The Building Fund of the local MCC has \$50,000 and Rev. Charles Larsen is confident that the purchase of the Lutheran church will be an impetus to additional fund raising. Gay productions entrepreneur H. L. Perry has gifted MCC with the "Mr. and Miss Gay San Francisco" title so that event may be used each year as a benefit. Perry and his associates recently gave MCC \$500 from the Grand Duke & Grand Duchess Ball.

Mama Peck is presenting the Headdress Ball on December 17 at California Hall as a benefit for MCC.

## HONGISTO, WILLIE BROWN, AT SILVER'S BRUNCH

A champagne brunch will be served this Sunday, Dec. 11, to celebrate the election of Carol Ruth Silver to the Board of Supervisors and help pay off a campaign debt.

Sheriff Richard Hongisto and Assemblyman Willie Brown will join other "celebrity" guests at the 11AM to 1PM affair at Gaylord's Ice Cream Parlor, 2435 Mission St. Donations are \$10 and checks may be made payable to "Carol Ruth Silver for Supervisor." Reservations are required; phone 861-8450.

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## MCC NEGOTIATES PURCHASE OF \$300,000 CHURCH

Negotiation sessions have been approved by the membership of Metropolitan Community Church as it attempts to purchase a \$300,000 structure at the corner of 18th and South Van Ness. The red brick building was built in 1905. It is owned by the Norwegian Lutheran Church.

Currently, MCC rents offices at 1076 Guerrero and has services at a Presbyterian Church at 21st and Capp Sts. If negotiations are successful and there is final membership approval, the local Gay-oriented church will have one of the largest structures in the MCC



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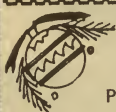
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SUPPLEMENT OF THE BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. 7 NO. 12 DECEMBER 8, 1977

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NEXT ISSUE OUT: DEC. 22



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## THIS WEEKEND: ANTI-BRIGGS MEET SCHEDULE

### Milk Is Keynote Speaker

This weekend's statewide conference to fight Senator John Briggs' anti-Gay teacher initiative will draw Gay activists from across the state. The initiative has been a catalyst in politically organizing Gay people from Ukiah to San Diego. The conference will be held in Los Angeles on the University of Southern California campus. The campus is located in downtown Los Angeles.

#### FRIDAY

Harvey Milk, newly elected San Francisco supervisor, will be the keynote speaker at a Hollywood social night just before the conference begins. He will speak at 7PM at Trouper's Hall, 1625 No. LaBrea. A social/political rap be-

tween activists will follow Milk's presentation with informal visiting to the local Gay night spots.

#### SATURDAY

Saturday begins on the USC campus at Founder's Hall at 9AM with Registration. Workshops will be held in three sets, from 10-12, 2-5 and 7-9PM. Morning workshops will be dialogue sessions and the afternoon groups will discuss special concerns: Labor, Law, Women, Education, Students, Religion. Political Action will be the subject of the evening sessions with a special emphasis on "How to --."

#### SUNDAY

Sunday opens with a 9AM meeting of Special Interest groups and a session of the Resolutions Committee which will condense submitted resolutions to speed the after-

noon General Session. Resolutions will be presented at the afternoon session, 12 to 6PM. There will also be an election of a statewide committee.

Child care will be provided. There may be a special bus going and car pooling can be arranged. For transportation information call Les Morgan at 775-1000. Michael Mank, a Northern California coordinator, has additional information; call 646-6006.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

STAGE, SCREEN, SHOWS, ROCK, OPERA, INTERVIEWS, BOOKS, MUSIC, THE ARTS

## Donald McLean

**"Word Is Out" "The Circle" Has Reached "The Turning Point" — Or: From "Salo" To "Shenandoah"**

### Show Biz in Review

#### Stage: The Circle

The American Conservatory Theatre can let Tiny Tim go to the Dickens, I'll take "The Circle" for my Christmas treat. As with the five "Nutcrackers" currently available in the Bay Area, A.C.T. gives us once again their trenchant, mordant production of "A Christmas Carol" this month; is Tim Tiny, does Bob Scratchit? Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn; I'll still take "The Circle" for grand holiday entertainment.

W. Somerset Maugham's 1920 comedy has been given a very stylish treatment indeed by director Stephen Porter, costumer Robert Fletcher and set designer Robert Blackman, and it features some of the best ensemble acting we've had from the A.C.T. company in ages.

Into a chic English drawing room, a young, disgruntled wife of three short years has invited her husband's long run-off mother to return for a visit with her paramour, while her abandoned husband is also on the premises. Enter Mother, flaming red hair and wise-cracking mouth, full of airs and pretensions, with sturdy lover grumpily in tow. Father gleefully manipulates one quarrel

after another from the sidelines, reeking revenge for Mother running off and leaving husband, child and hearth to those many years ago. To complicate matters, young wife has a young would-be lover visiting who wants her to abandon her dreary, stuffy political husband. Will the wife desert hubby for true love, repeating history, or stay with stolid husband and learn from Mother's mistakes? It hardly seems a fair choice, but as the curtain lowers, all three of the oldsters are jumping for joy, each thinking his side has won.

The play still crackles with wonderful Maugham repartee, taking sly pokes at politicians, social snobbery and love in general. Porter has kept the play deftly flowing in the arch 20's style, yet mining the deeper underlying humanity as well.

"The Circle" gives Marrian Walters an actor's feast as the aging harri-dan mother, and Walters grabs every line and gesture with the sure stroke of a master. She's totally captivating, with strong aid from William Paterson as the Husband and Sydney Walker as the Lover. The three veteran actors carry the evening with urbane skill, relishing every zinger and tender



Marrian Walters in *The Circle* — "Did he call me an aging harri-dan?! Well, he's just jealous of this dress!"

moment. Their young counterparts are played by Deborah May, in one of her finest, most layered performances to date as the Wife, James B. Winker as the Husband and David Hudson as the Lover.

"The Circle" offers nothing more than Maugham at his best, a play that withstands the test of time, presented under prize conditions; it's one of A.C.T.'s most sterling achievements ... on every level.

#### Film: The Turning Point

Will we ever forget Moira Shearer in "The Red Shoes," dancing as if possessed to her doom in glorious technicolor? Well, the producers of "The Turning Point," now at the Alexandria, are hoping the answer is "Yes." While "Red Shoes" was a romantic depiction of the offstage grind and heartbreak of the world of ballet, "The Turning

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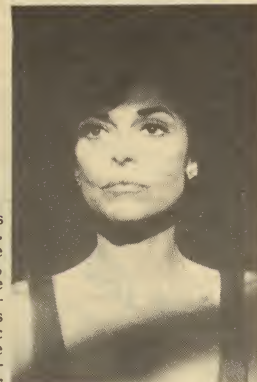


Point" relates the same theme without the rose-colored glasses as it shows us two ballerinas, best friends, one of whom has become the prima ballerina assoluta of the American Ballet Company while the other gave up potential fame and fortune to marry, have children and teach ballet in a small town. Deedee, the teacher, has always wondered if she could have made it as big as Emma; now Deedee has a daughter who's on her way to the top, while Emma has reached the age of clinging to established roles demanding more drama than dance and sees a bleak future of coaching younger girls in her old roles.

The role of Deedee gives Shirley MacLaine her best role in many a year and she is superb. Anne Bancroft as Emma is stunning, and when the two women team up for a 7-minute confrontation scene, the screen almost shoots sparks. It's electrifying, under Herbert Ross' taut direction, the casting of Bancroft and MacLaine sheer genius. The dramatic moments are gripping; unfortunately, the ballet scenes are not. Ballet has never transferred to the screen well, the excitement diminishes and a certain flat sameness stultifies the impact of the grace and speed of an imperson appearance versus the camera angle. Therefore, the dance it-



SHIRLEY MACLAINE



ANNE BANCROFT

MIKHAIL BARYSHNIKOV — "Between Bancroft and MacLaine, I don't know which way to turn."

self is not that exciting, is enchanting as nor is there that much MacLaine's daughter. intact; Ross gives us Miss Browne could have glimpses of a minute of quite a future in films, several ballets, but never even without her toe allows us enough exposure shoes. Besides Baryshnikov, first-rate support is offered by several balletic stars who prove capable to become engrossed in anything more than the recognition of many famous names gliding across the screen or the pyrotechnics of the brilliant Mikhail Baryshnikov, who proves to be an able actor as well as the balletic superstar of today. Baryshnikov's one "Coraire" solo is almost worth the price of the film by itself.

But the magic of "Red Shoes" classic-in-memory ballet was that it was specifically choreographed for the screen, and therein lies the difference. "Turning Point" is a better film dramatically, but not balletically.

Perhaps it will best be remembered for introducing a lovely ballerina named Leslie Browne, who

"The Turning Point" is a fine film, but not the trailblazer one could have hoped, especially with Arthur Laurent's excellent scripting and Ross' knowledgeable direction; the words are fine, the performers perfection, but it seems the subject matter itself remains elusive for the screen.

dragseuses par excellence; this is not camp, it's satire. They are too good to be merely camp; all are adequate dancers who take off and on what they formerly made a living at. They know their material and its compulsive style so well they can needle it ever so slyly without resorting to low-down burlesque.

The program alone is worth the trip; then, as we sit with eager anticipation, the houselights dim and the usual voice comes over the loudspeaker: "In an unprecedented move, tonight's program will be performed exactly as written. (wild cheers) And we are pleased to report Madame Olga Tchikaboumskaya is feeling good this evening." We all scream delightedly, not having even seen Madame Olga yet.

But that is soon remedied. Madame Olga is a 6'2" hairy-chested ballerina who dances with the demure delicacy of a 4'10" dresden doll. Tonight, Madame Olga is dancing Giselle, Act II. For ballet aficionados, it is particularly biting and hilarious. Where Giselle normally tempts dreary Albrecht with a single lily, in this production Al is practically buried alive in an avalanche of lilies. Myrtha, Queen of the Wilis, bourrees across the stage on her first entrance right into the wall. Myrtha is a vicious bitch as interpreted by the Gale Sondergaard countenance of Madame Zarmarina Zamarkova; when Giselle hands Myrtha a bunch of lilies to plead for Al, Myrtha throws them into



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the orchestra pit in a fit of pique. It also appears Tamara Boundiyeva and Ida Neversayneva are feuding backstage this evening, throwing each other venomous looks as they try to outdance each other. In the second half, Tamara "en travesti"

(meaning dancing in male attire) and Ida team up for the Bluebird pas de deux, Olga Plushinskaya offers a blistering tribute to Isadora Duncan and Betsy Ross, there is a blah duet that could be dropped with no pain following and The Dying Swan with molting feathers all over the stage that wears thin quickly. But the best is saved for last. Entitled "Yes, Virginia, Another Piano Ballet," it takes off on Jerome Robbins and all those simple ballets danced to one lone piano onstage. Madame Olga Tchikaboumskaya returns only to be hurled into the piano by a vicious Ida, three dancers walk slowly across the stage glaring at the pianist who forgot to come in on cue, the pianist starts before the lead dancer is ready and all to the standard Chopin music of every recital ever dredged up. It's side-splitting, and although the jokes wear thin after awhile, Les Ballets Trockadero know whereof they dance, and they satirize it brilliantly. I can't remember when I've found myself stamping my feet and howling with delight so often. When they come back to Zellerbach or Flint Center next year, rush to the nearest BART station or mug a car owner, they're worth it.

## Film: Word Is Out

Continuing with the good news this issue, Mariposa Film Group has made the definitive Gay documentary to date, "Word is Out," which can and should be seen by everyone, Gay or straight, at the Gateway Cinema.

Out of 200 interviews, Adair Films has chosen 26 people from all aspects of Gay life to give their faces about, such as Rick Stokes, George Mendenhall and Sally Gerhart, and every contribution is valid and interesting. Most of the 26 are highly articulate, a couple are touching in their simplistic inability to verbalize feelings, but "Word is Out" doesn't just relate facts, it delves into the background, the coping and the hopes for the future... and it does it all with humor often and sometimes moving moments, such as Pam Jackson, who had to give



Madame Olga Tchikaboumskaya as Giseele — "I never promised you a Rose Adagio!"

up her children to live with her Lesbian lover. Actress Pat Bond is surely the most entertaining, as she illustrates the posturings of the butch dyke and the Lesbianism rampant in the WAC's. But she also offers a gritty realistic outlook, tinged with cynicism, and beneath the humor she emerges a bright sensitive woman who's fought to come to grips with herself. The Gay woman perhaps gets better attention and articulation in the film; certainly Sally Gerheart and 79 year old poetess Elsa Gidlow are proud examples of Lesbian dignity.

But the men are not slighted. Michael Mintz and Dennis Chiu represent the ultimate minorities, being Gay and Black/Chinese. Rick Stokes tells about a miserable attempt at marriage to a woman to conform even though he knew it probably wouldn't work, and Harry Hay and John Burnside, two lovers in their 60's, show that Gay marriages can last. 26 stories, all engrossing and all representing every Gay person's story somewhere along the line. Certainly we can all identify, not just on the basis of being Gay but the identity crisis and problems of growing up to moments, such as Pam Jackson, who had to give everyone faces.

"Word is Out" is too long in length and could withstand at least 20 minutes of cutting, but what it says it says with simple power and finally brings us to the realization that the only difference between Gay and straight is sexual, the problems are universal.

It should be required viewing for everyone who seeks a better understanding. It is a film long overdue whose time has come, and Mariposa Film Group can only be heaped with congratulations and gratitude.

## Film: Salo, Or The 120 Days Of Sodom

I've racked my brain, but I cannot come up with an even close contender. Pier Paolo Pasolini's last film, "Salo," wins hands down as the most poisonous two hours I've ever spent in a theater.

The film is loosely based upon the notorious novel by the Marquis de Sade. And while golden shower queens, shit-fanciers and S&M fans may find momentary joys in this film, I suspect it will ultimately prove too much even for them.

An allegory supposedly of Italy's Fascist regime under Mussolini, the film graphically illustrates the horrors awaiting 10 young boys and 10 young girls who are captured by Salo's top-ranking four Fascists, and held imprisoned inside a castle while four madames daintily relate their most bizarre sexual adventures. First the boys and girls are sodomized, forced to swallow nails, urinated upon, forced to wallow in and eat their own feces and then the ultimate sexual thrill, torture by various gruesome methods (filmed in bloody color with lingering closeups as a girl is scalped alive) while two baby-faced guards dance with each other, impervious to the horrors outside. It makes its point about



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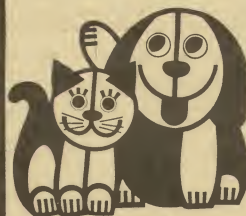
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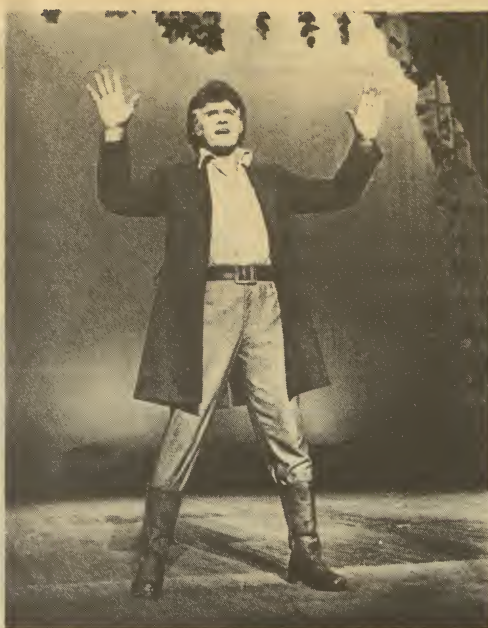
Fascism, and Pasolini's artistic sense is obvious in every frame, but the film becomes an endurance contest to see if you can make it to the bitter end without vomiting.

"Salo" was first shown in 1975, shortly before Pasolini was murdered by a 17 year old for alleged homosexual advances. It was immediately banned in Italy and only now has shown up in America. I give the Italians credit for their good taste; for those with none, the film is on view at the Lumiere Theatre off Polk.

## Stage: Shenandoah

You might describe "Shenandoah," the first offering of the new Best of Broadway series at the Curran Theatre, as "old-fashioned," "folksy," "homespun humor," "American as apple pie;" you might also follow that with "dreary," "dull," "totally lacking in creativity" and maybe even a heartfelt "boorrring!"

In 1965, James Lee Barrett wrote a film entitled "Shenandoah" for James Stewart, Doug McClure and the immortal Glenn Corbett. The film concerned a Virginia farmer and his five sons during the early days of the Civil War. Determined not to take sides, the family finds themselves thrust into the war despite their good intentions; a son and his wife are murdered, another one is kidnapped by Yankees



**JOHN RAITT** — "Alright, folks, now calm! I'll sign your programs and I'm selling my jams and jellies in the lobby too!" and still another meets a bullet from a nearsighted Confederate soldier. This basically cheery little epic was not your big box office sensation of '65, yet Peter Udell and Gary Gold, composers, and Philip Rose, director/writer/producer, decided it merited the addition of a totally unmemorable score to thrust it onto the Broadway stage. Well, thrust it has been, and not

even C. Murawski's excellent sets nor Thomas Skelton's exciting lighting can make "Shenandoah" anything more than a musical turkey shoot. With a weak vehicle, the burden upon the performer is immense. It is to the credit of several fine actors that there are a couple of touching moments and a couple of rousing numbers along the way. It's hard to make

much out of dialogue like, "If I wasn't like me, I'd be like you" or such toetapping humbables as "The Pickers Are Comin'" and "Violets and Silverbells," but Lord, the cast at the Curran do try.

Heading the roster is John Raitt as Charlie Anderson, stern widower father. Raitt still possesses a ringing tenor voice and a genial stage presence; he was never much of an actor and the situation remains unchanged. He's nice, amiable and pleasant company. And he will even sign your souvenir program in the lobby immediately following the show, which proves he's a nice guy. But a strong, commanding patriarch... hardly.

Fortunately, the older sons are uniformly excellent. Paul Myrvold, Dean Russell, Robert Quigley, Robert Johanson and David Russell all make the most out of limited roles and provide the bulk of the interest in the proceedings, aided also by the shining performances of Suzie Brabeau and Gordon Halliday as Anderson's only daughter and her bashful soldier/suitor. Jana Schneider as the oldest son's wife has a powerful voice but is a dismal actress. In this family-style entertainment, there, of course, are the obligatory win-some children to steal our hearts (one wonders what happened to the obligatory adorable dog usually attached to said moppet's wrist). Tony Holmes as

the little slave Gabriel is as winning as any child actor has a right to be; Steve Grober as the youngest Anderson is cloyingly cute to the point of nausea.

Lest it sound that I am Un-American and hate apple pie, let me hasten to reassure you that I love Shirley Temple movies and still get a chill when a Sousa march is struck up, but "Shenandoah" is not even a good old-fashioned musical comedy; it lacks wit, solid musical numbers and sparkle. It's a plodding attempt at bringing one more tear to the eye (with absolutely no finish at all; it just sort of peters out and everybody bows).

If you like Tiffany lamps and Ivor Novello waltzes, then possibly "Shenandoah" will divert you for a couple of hours. I found it like being buried alive under Hallmark greeting cards!

## The Holiday Rush

Nancy Bleiweiss called to explain that she had left "Beach Blanket Babylon" (along with Fran Moitoza) very amicably after meeting with Actor's Equity who nicely informed the girls they could not continue performing as Equity members in the show. No big dispute, but Nancy is now a lady in retirement; not only out of "BBB" (although sister Roberta may still be seen nightly in a new role) but Nancy's also filmed all her Laugh-In specials for the season.

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What to do now? She solved that problem simply -- Nancy is marrying Tom Landy on January 7 with only a few thousand close friends invited. Two nicer people you couldn't find, and Tom has promised that any time Nancy feels an urge to put a bowl of fruit on her head and sing the "Sempere Libera" he'll sit and applaud. Now, that's love!

Lazima Sana felled backstage last Sat. night by a sudden heart attack at "Purlie"; he's now in good condition at Presbyterian and Jim Holmes takes over the role of Gitlow. And that's a lousy Christmas present!

## BAGL Benefit

To raise funds for rent and postage, Bay Area Gay Liberation (BAGL) is holding a Flea Market and Bake Sale on December 17. The sale will be held at 32 Page St. from Noon to 5:00pm.

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# Tales of Tessi Tura

Hmmm Dere, Verdi Interesting!!!

by George Heymont

## THE MASKED BALL

A friend tipped me off before I attended our new production of UN BALLO EN MASCHERA. "Keep your eyes on Patricia Payne when she gets up out of Ulrica's chair," he said, "it looks just like the tree growing in the first act of NUTCRACKER!" He was right. Indeed, her talent stands almost as tall as she does. Having made her SFO debut earlier this season as Erda in DAS RHEINGOLD, Payne attacked the role of Ulrica with a dramatic and vocal intensity that had little competition during the evening.

This is not to say that it wasn't an evening of vocal splendor. There were many stunning moments, but not where you would normally expect them. Jose Carreras as Riccardo, and Katia Riccia-

relli as Amelia certainly have some glorious music to sing. Their voices can do justice to Verdi's music, but they are often uneven performers. There

will be isolated moments of beauty in their singing and long patches of music where both performers coast along toward a more carefully prepared moment in the score. Both also tend to rely on stock operatic gestures (Carreras particularly plays into the footlights).

Far more interesting were the San Francisco debuts of Yuri Mazurok, a fabulous Russian baritone, as Renato, and pint-sized Kathleen Battle as the

pressive physically. The real stroke of genius shows in the last scene, placed inside the Stockholm Opera House. Sonja Frisell, the director, achieved a balance between the music and stage action that was remarkable. Her use of the Commedia Dell'Arte players running through the masked crowd added that extra touch of grotesque charade to the final death scene. If much of the evening's best music lacked any dramatic



"Ever since you played the Palace, you keep acting like you're better than the rest of us. Well, I'm still your father, and if you don't go out there for a curtain call with the rest of the cast, so help me, I'll take you right over my knee in the Nile Scene and whup you in front of the audience!" An obstreperous Aida (Maria Pazzini) gets her come-uppance from her father (Norman Mittelman).

page, Oscar. Ms. Battle has a bright future ahead of her filling the shoes of all those child-bride operatic virgins (Gilda, Lucia, Juliette, etc.). She is a delightful actress, and possesses a voice which shines with promise. Her first act curtain calls next to Patricia Payne looked a bit like a Mutt & Jeff team, but in this case the supporting players were a far better show than the leads.

Kurt Herbert Adler's conducting was surprisingly alive, not dragging as it has in previous years. The new production, designed by John Conklin, is im-

urgency, it was due to the tendency of Carreras and Ricciarelli to play to the prompter's box, rather than to each other.

## AIDA

The season's performances of AIDA were another story. There were two casts. In the first string of AIDAS, things were noticeably out of whack. Most of the cast was not in good voice. James McCracken's voice was badly frayed, and his use of a falsetto was painfully unpleasant. Gianandrea Gavazzeni's conducting was erratic. At times the performers were



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jumping on cues like cats trying to catch a mouse. It seemed like a game of who could beat whom to the music. Gavazzeni would also suddenly change tempo in distressing ways. He must hold the record for the fastest triumphal march in years: the supers couldn't even run fast enough to catch up with him.

Making her SFO debut as Aida was an Italian soprano, Maria Parazzini, who brought a distinctly unprofessional attitude with her. Her voice is large, though often unfocused. At times she did some nice things with the role, but needs time to develop her concept of Aida. When not singing,

she could sometimes be seen talking at McCracken as he was trying to sing. When facing upstage during the triumphal scene, she was often grimacing at the chorus. She refused to take curtain calls with the other principals on two nights, creating an atmosphere of discordance that might cause excitement and set the clacquers in a provincial Italian house drooling. Here it simply antagonized the audience and her colleagues.

If thrown slightly off balance, AIDA falls squarely into the hands of Amneris, and she becomes the dramatic focus of the evening. With much of the cast missing cues, unable to keep up with the

conductor and the production generally falling apart at the seams, a miracle happened.

Fiorenza Cossotto has been around a long time and was making her long overdue SFO debut as Amneris. Cossotto possesses a huge and powerful voice and knows the role like the palm of her hand. She proceeded to mop up the stage with the rest of the cast, not deliberately, merely by default. She opened up her lungs like a 747 on takeoff and peeled the paint off the Opera House. Her Judgment Scene had the kind of old-time operatic excitement that makes you just scream with ecstasy. At one point Gavazzeni suddenly slowed his tempo, and Cossotto looked into the pit as if to say, "Listen, you, I've got lungs by Bethlehem Steel and I can match you beat for beat." She did, and deserved the huge ovations she received at each performance.

The second cast hit a better balance. Gianfranco Cecchele in his SFO debut as Radames had a much more pleasing sound than McCracken's strangled singing. If he could not cut over the orchestra with as much force, it was certainly more tolerable. The new Aida, Eva Marton, proved to be a hot find. She has a huge voice and must be the angriest Aida I have ever seen. Her phrasing is different from the stock interpretation, but exciting. Bonaldo Giaiotti (the saving grace in this year's PURITANI production) brought a solid dignity to the role of Ramfis. The man's voice is strong and powerful. He is a remarkable musician and has been one of those pillars of the Metropolitan for a decade.

Aida had a fascinating rival in the Amneris of Tatiana Troyanos. Although she, too, had trouble making herself heard over the orchestra, Troyanos has apparently developed a singular por-

trayal of the Egyptian princess. Her Judgment Scene is a character study of the feline bitch thrashing about in the wake of the man that got away. No crowns, no royal armor, just her long, shiny black hair, an aura of jealousy, and a heart on fire. Both ladies brought interpretations to their roles which were far from the norm, throwing the rivalry between Aida and Amneris into a much more human perspective.

Aida's father, of course, has some gorgeous music and both casts were blessed with sturdy Amonasros. Norman Mittelman and Ingvar Wixell were both superb and provided some stability to an otherwise often rocky evening.

This AIDA production is borrowed from the Metropolitan. It is a concise unit set, extremely well designed. If it lacks miles of stairs, it does let you concentrate on the singers. The carpeting all over the set soaked up a great deal of sound and gave the chorus trouble. Yet it also enabled them

to produce some of their holiest sounds in the first act Temple Scene. The costumes by Peter J. Hall are stunning. The design of the production brings out the colors of Egypt more than any other I have seen; there are the desert sands and the wealth of gold. AIDA is not an easy opera to pull off — the traffic problems alone are hair-raising. Backstage during the Triumphal March was apparently managed with the precision and immediacy of a warfront hospital.

One sour note this season is the tendency for performers to break character and steal a bow after an aria. In the AIDA it reached a new low, with special solo spots provided for bows. I am strongly against this. Let the audiences scream their guts out, (I assure you, I'm screaming along with the best of them) but let's keep the singers in character. Opera is still musical drama, not a circus.

George Heymont

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by D. Lawless

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#### THE MOTORS (Virgin Records)

Featuring two ex-members of the "legendary" pub rock band, Duck's Deluxe, The Motors are a four-man band whose music conveys a ringing, upbeat simplicity and drive that were once the hallmarks of mid-sixties British rock. Lyrically, they're on the outside of nowhere, but they stick close to the beat like chewing gum and don't try to get too fancy; so it all adds up to a quick and refreshing roadside pick-me-up when your brain's about fried from white line fever. (RATING: 6)

#### PHOEBE SNOW NEVER LETTING GO (Columbia Records)

Since her sensational debut several seasons back, she's been stuck at the bottom of the same half-assed hold. As my personal guru, Elissa Crammohr, observed sacrilegiously: "Steady having a baby, she should maybe have had an abortion." Mighta given her something more genuinely credible to sing about than this "quaint" school-marm so-popra. (RATING: -211)

#### PATRICK MORAZ ~ OUT IN THE SUN (Import Records)

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plays every conceivable keyboard instrument known to man's imagination, including one called a Vibrotronic Bubbletron. About half the songs are built on a solidly percussive Brazilian rhythm bed, and the others veer toward British progressive rock, without the usual overworked pontification. It's a relaxing sound. Light and liquescent, like the carioca, tapioca, coconut wine or whatever. You name it, I'll guzzle it, 'cause this kinda sunsplashed sound is intoxicating. (RATING: 8)

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These foul-mouthed rants are frontline art-lymen of the New Wave. They're an armed gang

who've declared war on the industrial "peace," and their ammo is a spiteful barrage of pick-axe harangues about the ugly city things goin' up or stuff that's merely pretty ugly. Like beautiful chances and elephant cum in gelatin. 'Cause that's what's being built and that's what's going down. I can appreciate their spunky spitting spirit, and they're not quite as monot as allotta other punky storm-troopers. Digging 'em is easy as digging crustations outta the corner of my eye. But I got my own fire burnin'. All I need's smoke. So throw me a butt, boys. But next time, make it one without so many warts, please. (RATING: 5)

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**SANTANA**  
MOONFLOWER  
(Columbia Records)

Another double LP! (It's Xmas, folks; leave yer bux on the counter!) Working with familiar "live" and brand new studio material, Santana slaughters the bull in the very first reel with predictable "cosmetic" flourishes from his stinging coyote guitar. With these kind of grandstanding tactics, he's locked into an old-style hero role, afraid to be seen without his makeup. Having so hastily slaked the blood-lust of an audience prepared to witness a long, drawnout ritual preceding that precise moment of maximum acrobatic dexterity, what can ya serve for dessert? Well, with four sides to fill, all he can do is frost it with gaudy colors, stuff it into a suitably "romantic" package and hope the folks don't notice that they're gobbling the same stale bull-puckey he's been dishing out for long enough already. (RATING: 4)

## Actors Ensemble

Ivan Turgenev's "A Month in the Country," directed by Stefani Priest, is now playing at the San Francisco Actors Ensemble, 2940 16th Street (between Mission and South Van Ness).

This erudite bag is mixed indeed. Some of

## Books

by Frank Howell

### Gay Intellectuals Have Their Say

Louie Crew, an associate professor of English at Ft. Valley State College in Georgia, is a delightful chap who believes intellectual freedom means a lot more than merely a label you wear on your sleeve. He has broken through the barricade more than once. Any man who lives openly in the heart of "red-neck" Georgia with a black lover (Ernest Clay) must have balls made of iron. He's also the founder of INTEGRITY, an organization of Gay Episcopalians. He has shot more bullets under the seat of the God-fearing than any other professor I have ever met.

In 1975 Louie sent out a detailed questionnaire and inquired from major English departments as to whether they discriminated against Gay English teachers. The world of the ivory tower is still shaking. He received replies such as, "Tell me, Louie, are you a daisy?" or "Your questionnaire has been posted on our department bulletin board and has been treated as a joke." Louie's droll account of his research serves as lead article in a highly individualized bundle of writing known as the "Gay Academic," edited by Louie Crew. (Etc. Publications, P.O. Drawer 1627-A, Palm Springs, CA 92262, \$15.00)

As Louie tells us in his introduction, "The 'Gay Academic' includes scholars from England, Canada, and all parts of the United States, writing in no fewer than ten disciplines."

The 27 pieces will strike some readers as tame, earnest, and a bit on the dry side. But others will grab us by the throat and not let go until the last cogent point has been stated.

Some quick highlights:

Edgar Friedenberg declares himself for a life of specific non-sexuality. He quotes Anatole France who wrote "Chastity, The Rarest of Perversions." He enlarges on this ultimate heresy by stating, "There seems to be a great need in this world for affectionate people who try not to demand what their partners cannot afford, and who remain stable over time."

Dr. Louis Crompton provides what is the most compulsively readable account of Gay history yet written, "Gay Genocide From Leviticus to Hitler." He reminds us that the Inquisition never takes a holiday. Chilling illustrations leap from the pages of history that are seldom seen by the casual observer. Crompton tells us that, "a witch hunt" (was) carried out in Holland in 1730 when men and boys were systematically burned, hanged, beheaded, garrotted, and even judiciously drowned as homosexuals. Astonishingly, this drama took place in what has been generally regarded as the most liberal country in Europe during the "Age of Reason."

Mark Freedman's "Towards A Gay Psychology" tells us that homosexual men and women, according to psychological research, are better able to express emotions that lie outside the range of conventional sex roles. They show more freedom to act either masculine or feminine according to their feelings. Tradition does not dictate emotion.

Other writings of vigorous dissent include Barbara Giddings' "Combating Lies in the Libraries," James E. Brogan's

"Teaching Gay Literature in San Francisco," Ellen Barrett's "Gay People and Moral Theology," and Clinton Jones' "Christopher Isherwood and the Religious Quest."

If you feel like rocking the boat at your local college or university, toss a copy of the "Gay Academic" into the firework. Intellectual freedom will surely be put to the test.

### Theatre Rhinoceros

GAYHEM happens on Sunday, Dec. 11, and Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 8:12pm at the Gay Community Center, 330 Grove St. Admission is \$1.50. GAYHEM is a multimedia, multi-focus ritual celebration.

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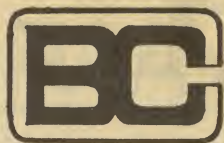
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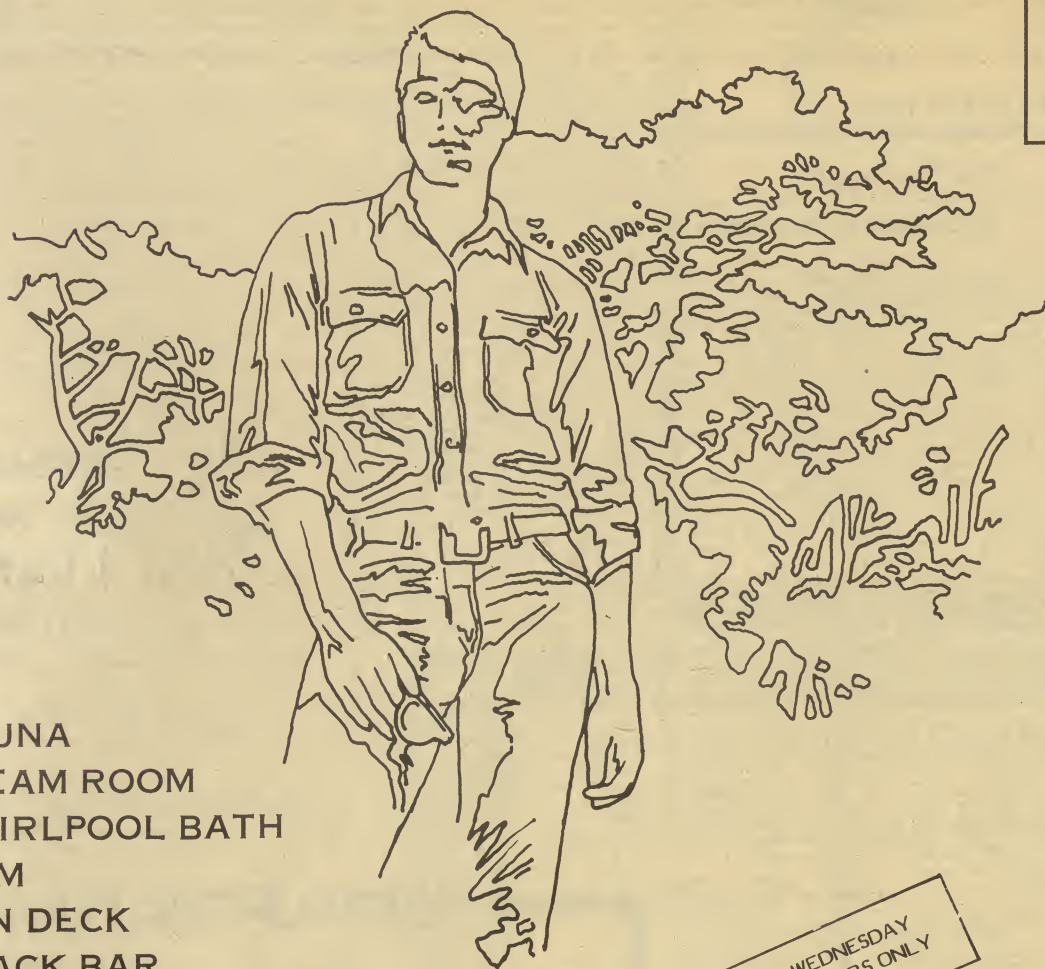
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## Mr. Marcus

**Tis The Season**

### Southern Scandals

The year's drawing to a close, and reminiscing over the past twelve months brings to mind a lot of good memories and bad ones as well. In January, Ronny Lynn and Denny Whitworth were elected to the titles of Mr/Miss Gay San Francisco. In February, the Fabulous Flame stepped aside to the election of Jane Doe as our twelfth Empress. The Barbary Coasters annual Bike Academy Awards was a huge success, and Henry Novak of the San Franciscans M/C was voted Man of the Year to the agreement of all concerned. In March, yours truly hit the 39 mark and now I'm waiting for life to begin next March. April 1st was National J/O Day, which will be celebrated again this year on a much bigger scale from what I hear. In May the Golden Boy Mike Shiell (Col. Kinque) snagged three Golden Dildeaux Awards at the Boot Camp's annual sex recognition night. All year long, Febe's issued gorgeous zodiac pins, one for each month, well received by those smart enough to sign in the birthday book. Fantastic bike runs here and in the Southland, fabulous food, booze, imaginative run themes - a good year for the bikers was 1977.

June was a heavy month for Gays, not only in San Francisco, but throughout the world. The puritanical forces of Anita Bryant defeated a human rights issue in Dade County. In retrospect, the Miami defeat served as a catalyst to Gays everywhere and the battle is being waged daily with the formation of human rights coalitions in every state. San Francisco Gays took to the streets in the thousands to protest the Dade County fiasco. Benefits were staged everywhere to support the mission of SOHR, including a Hollywood Bowl concert with Bette Midler and other stars. Charles Pierce, Jaye P. Morgan, Eartha Kitt and Martha Reeves were the head-

liners at another fund raiser here in our City. Feelings were rampant about Anita. Orange juice was boycotted and should still be boycotted. Our greatest show of strength was brought home to politicians everywhere at the Gay Freedom Day Parade.

Hundreds of thousands, not all of them Gay, showed the world that we will not be second-class citizens. Still, our good friend Mayor Moscone has failed to stick a poker up Roger Boas' ass to get us parade funds. We still have no representation on the Police Commission. Supervisorial representatives elected by District also passed in June, and Gays were instrumental in the defeat of A & B. Whereas the Boot Camp celebrated its 6th year in existence, the Ramrod and Febe's celebrated their 10th and 11th respectively. The Leatherneck bar was the surprise sensation of the year as far as new bars go, and Kimo's on Polk was an instant success.

In July, under the chairmanship of the Fabulous Flame, the Circus Circus was another smash event and Operation Concern is still in operation, with a new clinician after the dedicated Jim Stoll left us for a job in Hawaii. August saw the 5th Annual Closet Ball at the Kabuki - again for Operation Concern - with SF's first black Closet Ball Queen, Ken Angram. September, of course, Jim Ostlund swept the polls to become the sixth Emperor and establish his Golden Spike Court. Mr. Cowboy Bill Beck and Delicious DeeDee, Miss Cowgirl, defeated their opponents easily to become titled.

Many new romances and break-ups this year. Prince Consort Freddie left us for the Great Beyond as well as Donna Mae, one of the kindest persons in the Tenderloin. And just the night before Halloween, the beloved Bobby Kerns met with a tragic ending by still unknown assailants.

November saw the new Grand Duke Don Baker and Grand Duchess Tanya sweep the city to win their titles, and Wayne Friday and Ginny Lee became the new King and Queen of Spoons.

Greta Grass became the Queen Mother of California. The Casualty Capers and the CMC Carnival topped every event South of Market. SF also added the biggest dance bar to its roster of glittering discos with the opening of the I-Beam, preceded by the opening of one of the most beautiful, Alfie's. Le Domino still dominates the restaurant scene, consistently fine cuisine and exquisite ambience. David Kelsey still thrills thousands with his musical aptitude. Bob Sander and Dennis Moreen still wow the piano bar set, and J.J. Van Dyck has assumed a new niche in his sophisticated appearances in clubs in Reno and other cities. Randy Johnson, after all his years of unwavering loyalty to the Gay community, will finally get his just reward with a royal titleship - the new Czar of the Seven Hills. I have worked with Randy on innumerable projects; comec'd'd with him; fought with him; argued with him, and yes, love him. I can think of few people more deserving of this

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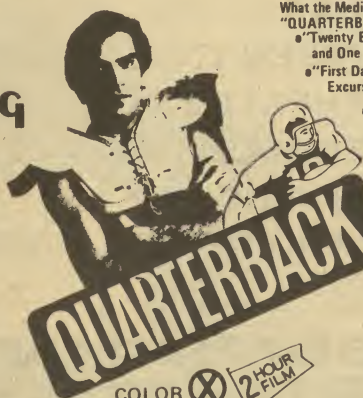
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## SPARTAN



fine honor than my roommate, Randy Johnson, the kid from the Tenderloin who made a commitment to guard our way of life at all costs.

Whatever 1977 held for you, good or bad, or good AND bad, it will be a year to remember, and hopefully, for you it was ALL good. Thank you for your support in worthy causes; for supporting those candidates you thought would do the best job; for being there when needed; for your strong showing on Gay Freedom Day; thanks also for not drinking orange juice or buying Coors beer; thanks for all the blood you gave to Inter-Club and to Roger of All American Boy who is still on the danger list. Thanks for Bear Hollow and the Village and to the Badlands team for whipping the cops; thanks to those unsung heroes of Casualty Capers; to Vic Galvan for the blood drives; you are ALL such beautiful people. May the year 1978 be prosperous, fun-filled, loving and a better life for all. And, oh yes, I'm glad God sent us Harvey Milk. We're all proud of you, Harvey, and know you will do a great job. Give 'em Hell! Have a Cool Yule and a Frantic First!

\* \* \*

#### SPECIFIC TELL & TELL . . .

While Chuck with the rimless glasses was having a quiet helping of "Cream of Leak" soup the other night in a South of Market bar, two queens were sitting at the bar discussing the upcoming Empress election. After much argument, one said to the other, "I'm not voting this year -- what with a Horse that has Abortions, a stale candy bar and a dyke factory, why doesn't someone else run?" And, indeed, there may be 7 or 8 candidates this year -- there's still Royal, Victoria, Tessie and a new one, MAE . . . If you haven't bought your Xmas tree yet, I suggest you trot over to Jim & Ed's Rainbow Garden Nursery at 4015-B 24th St., between Castro & Noe, as they have a wonderful selection . . . On Dec. 17, Sam Jones and the Golden Gate Theatres present Bobby Kent, the fabulous Pearl, the Buena Vista Band and Messiah at 8:00pm in a super, super show. Advance tickets available thru BASS, GG Theater Box Office, and from Dennis Hale of Shoe-string Productions for only \$5.00 . . . Have you

met Budget Bardot and Bermuda Schwartz yet? They are two genderfuck queens who will soon be hitting the Miracle Mile . . . Oil Can Harry's 1st Anniversary Party was a smash success last week; and congratulations to Bob and Dan, to Ralph Deming the manager, and all those fine bartenders there -- thanks for a swell first year . . . Don't forget January 9th, our new supervisors (including Harvey Milk) will be inaugurated at City Hall. I wish I could tell you what will take place in honor of Harvey that night, but it's a surprise and you'll ALL probably be invited . . . Don't forget the David Kelsey Keyboard Concert this weekend at the Golden Gate Theater . . . My thanks to Chris of San Francisco for the gift certificate, but you should have sent one to Enema Von Gay, too . . . Early birthday greetings to Don and John of Febe's on their upcoming birthdays. Don will be 52 (a full deck) on Jan. 3, and John will be 50 on Dec. 22 -- I wouldn't miss EITHER of those parties, would you?

#### MULTIPLE SLUR-OSIS . . .

This Sunday, Dec. 11, Emperor Jim Ostlund will present CHESTNUTS ROASTING, a benefit to fight the Briggs Initiative at California Hall from noon to 8PM -- a Gay Xmas Faire. Immediately following, Randy Johnson, the new Czar of the Seven Hills, will name his household at Febe's . . . You can identify guys who are into "lace curtains" by the new buttons seen around town -- "May the Force-Skin be With You" . . . The Mr/Miss Gay San Francisco competition is almost upon us and to date, the only candidate I know who could do a great job is Tony DiSette; I don't know why he needs that title, but if that's what he wants, I'll give him my vote and I urge you to vote for him, too . . . Welcome home to Joe Sanders of Febe's -- that was a nice thing you did back home, and we're glad to see you back home and at work . . . What happened to Data Boy last week -- didn't see the paper anywhere until late Friday? . . . Hear tell La Kish will no longer be affiliated with Kalendar and is now writing for the Rip Off Rage . . . Don't forget Mama Peck's Head-dress Ball on Dec. 17 at California Hall. See you all there. . .

All the bars and bike clubs and other people are

having Xmas parties. Since there are too many to list, be sure to keep your eyes and ears peeled so you can get in on some of the goodies the bars offer their patrons after the long year . . . Hope you caught the divorce of Ron Ross and La Kish at the New Bell Saloon last Sunday; it was a riot. With Jose I as judge and Mavis and Dixon as attorneys for the plaintiffs, the proceedings were hilarious. Some \$250 was raised by fines levied on the crowd for contempt of court and buttons were sold -- great show to two hard workers. It was a very funny afternoon . . . Jim & Ed of Rainbow Garden Nursery were taken aback by a phone caller who wanted to know if they'd take Food Stamps for a Christmas Tree. Said Ed to the befuddled caller, "If the bank would take food stamps for my rent, I would; but they don't, so I won't." -- silence, then a click at the other end. Nice try! . . . The Valley of the Dolls (Castro) is busy most of the time, and offers a variety of bars and shops as well as restaurants. One of the nicest bartenders around is Gary Schick of Everett's VILLAGE -- nice man, nice man . . . Yeasss, that was John Forkey and Dennis Day being judges at the Boot Camp last Monday night for the Jockey Shorts Contest -- two real dolls from the Valley of the Dolls . . . Is it true that Haight St. is being called the Valley of the Freaks? Well, is it? . . . Still some berths on Bette Bonko's Hawaiian junket.

## SPORTS

### C.S.L. Founder Elected To S.F. Softball Commission

by Jim Dewey

A progressive step toward total community

involvement by Gays was announced at the 6th annual organizational meeting of Northern California's Community Softball League last Saturday. The San Francisco Park and Recreation Department recently elected C.S.L. founder Jack "Irene" McGowan to serve a 3-year term on the 20-

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Another headliner program for the Holiday Season!

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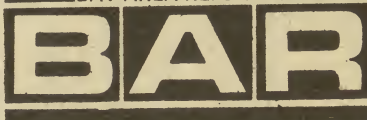


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Home Plate Action, CSL '77 (Photo by Emery Reiff)

member San Francisco Softball Commission. The Commission is a policy-making group that oversees the 500-plus city and private teams which compete throughout the city.

McGowan said that the acceptance of an up-front Gay as an active member of the San Francisco sporting community would not have been possible five years ago and is possible now only because of the continued dedication and involvement of so many Gay and straight people in the C.S.L.

Newly-elected CSL Commissioner Mark Brown announced that 15 teams have signed up for the 1978 season so far. New teams in the league are The Cinch, Dave's Baths, Totie's and The Village. Eleven teams are returning from the 1977 season: Ambush, Fun Time Tours/Full Moon, Hawaiian Hut (Sacramento), Oil Can Harry's, The Mint, Pendulum, Rainbow Cattle Company, Silver Sage, South of Market, Sutter's Mill and The Trapp.

Opening Day Chairman Paul Ruehl is already formulating plans for a colorful kickoff of the 1978 season. Knowing Paul, it should be a hot and successful event.

The 2nd annual Gay World Series (consisting mainly of Gay athletes, and also straight and bisexual athletes who are supportive of the Gay lifestyle) will take place in New York City in early September. Hopefully,

Cunningham and Paul Menefee.

The members also voted to extend the team entry deadline to Dec. 20 -- in other words, sponsoring bars aspiring to join the S.F. Pool League will be required to meet the following requirements by the 20th: (1) providing the Board Members with a list of eight players (five regulars and three alternates); (2) holding team captain elections; and (3) acquiring respective SFLA membership dues. No team will be admitted into the League unless the requirements are met by December 20.

In addition, the following bars are in the process of fielding teams: The Brig, Rainbow Cattle Co., The Cinch, Leatherneck, Wilson County, I-Beam, Jackeroo, Eagle Creek and the Arena. The

Arena, owned by Marcus, is the newest entry in the S.F. Pool League and will be a great addition to the Folsom Street area.

For further information about pool activities, please write: San Francisco Pool Association, 2938 Ingalls.

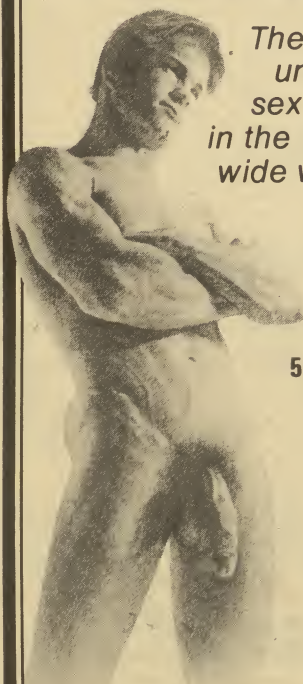
## S.F. Pool Championship

The 1977 San Francisco Invitational Pool Championship will be held at The Brig (1347 Folsom) on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 7:30pm. Truly a tournament of champions -- this event will only be open to those players who have won at least one tournament during the year. The entry fee deadline is Friday, Dec. 9. If eligible, contact your respective tournament director and register.

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## Commissioner's Message

On behalf of my fellow officers (Jerry DeFord, assistant commissioner; Dick "Izzy" Krabbe, treasurer; Les Balmain, secretary), we wish to thank the managers of the Community Softball League for their confidence in electing us to our positions. We have only one goal in mind, and that is to help make this, the C.S.L.'s sixth year, the best ever.

The C.S.L. has become an important part of our Gay community, and we are looking forward to giving you, the fans, the best possible softball in 1978.

Mark Brown, Commissioner  
Community Softball League

## Pool Officers Elected

by Bruno Bereshnoy

The Wilson County Lounge was the site of the 1977 San Francisco Pool Association conference. The 40 delegates on hand represented approximately 200 tournament pool players across the city. The following slate of officers was elected for the 1978 campaign: Bruno Bereshnoy, President; Ken Marquis, Vice President; Luby Pelletier, Secretary; Jerry Peloquin, Treasurer; and two alternates - J. C.



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## Modern Dance Concert

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## Christmas Comes Alive At MCC

Carolling by Gay Christians from Metropolitan Church will precede Christmas on Friday, Dec. 23. The traditional singing will be heard from touring, automated Cable Car with carollers stopping at Gay bars to spread some holiday cheer. The 8-11PM schedule will appear in the next issue of B.A.R.

All people are welcome at MCC although it has primarily a Gay congregation. Services are ecumenical (non-denominational). Rev. Charles Larsen urges all to attend the services in December which lead up to the Birth of Christ. Children's Church School is provided at Sunday services.

Regular church services are on Sundays at 1:00 and 7:15pm at 23rd & Capp Streets. On Christmas Eve there will be a candlelight service at 11pm at the church.

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25, 5'11", 150 lbs., 40" chest, hairy, a top man for all reasons, will leave you deeply satisfied...

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21, 5'11", 155 lbs., 38" chest, smooth, blond hair, brown eyes, young swimmer's build, will travel...

DICK  
20, 5'6", 125 lbs., 38" chest, smooth, 28" waist, brown hair, green eyes, tan with tan line...

DAVID  
21, 5'8", 135 lbs., 38" chest, smooth, 27" waist, blond hair, blue eyes, deep California tan...

LES  
26, 5'11", 175 lbs., 46" chest, SACH, 30" waist, weightlifter, 18" arms, handsome Italian...

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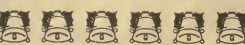
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W/M, 62, slim, easy going, wants to be turned over. Only 7" or more. No drugs, S/M or money. Pleasure only 825-9069 E25

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Share renovated Vict. flat. Own room. Quiet. Sunny. Carpeted. pet OK. Call now. No fee. 552-3751, 626-0350 E25

27 yr old stable, working male desires to share apt or house with male who is of similar age. 928-6249 E25

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Gay Male wanted to share 2 BR house in Santa Cruz. Non smk/drk or drugs/hippy. Student or older. \$115/mo. + util. (408) 426-7613. E25

#### South Peninsula \$150

Prof. W/M 35 sks employed W/M to 35 to share furn. house w/pool. Skier welcome. Box 621, Los Altos 94022. E25

Roommate to share house, male or female. Pot Hill. \$125 mo. + util. 282-4080 days. E25

W/M, 47, seeks W/M 25-35 to shg ltr 8rm house with same. N. Oakl nr Hwy 24 & Broadway. Sundeck, laundry. Share expense & utils. Don 547-1844 after 6PM E25

\$200 Comfortable 626-7003 E25

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\$275 Lwr Pac Hts all new 1 BR, util pd, patio, 1-2 men, gar X, no pets. 346-2737 E25

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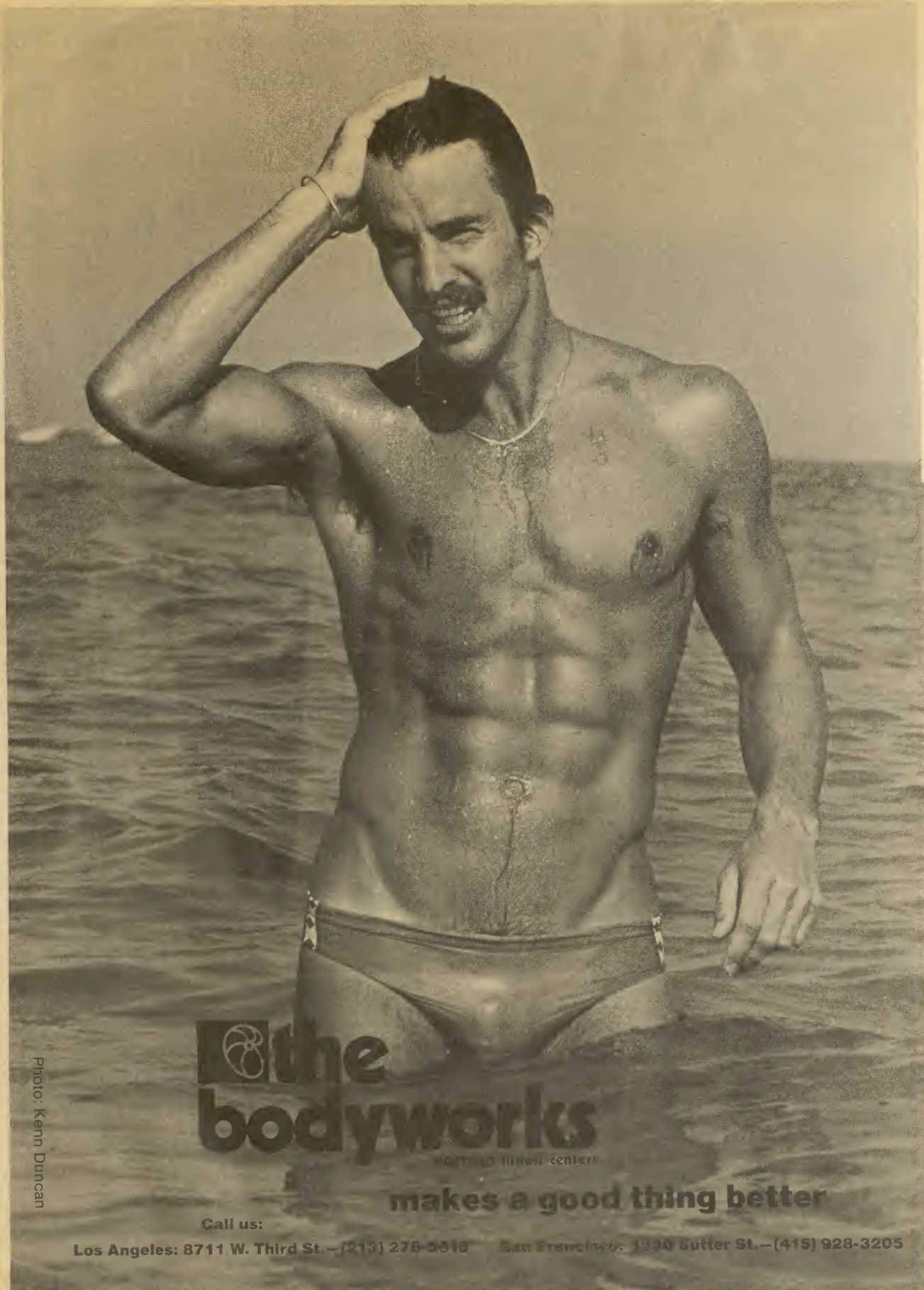


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